



## SELF- CONCEPT OF HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN IN RELATION TO OCCUPATIONAL ASPIRATION

Siddharth mani Tripathi<sup>1</sup> , Dr Ajay Kumar Singh<sup>2</sup> and Bechan Singh<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar , Dept of Education, Assam University Silchar Assam.

<sup>2</sup>Associate Professor , Dept of Education, Assam University Silchar Assam.

<sup>3</sup>Research Scholar , Dept of Education, Assam University Silchar Assam.

### ABSTRACT

*This paper investigated the self-concept and occupational aspiration of hearing impaired children and relationship between both variables with special reference to Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Descriptive survey method was used to achieve the objectives of the study. Hundred fifty hearing impaired students (96-male and 54- female student) purposively and incidentally selected from seven schools for the study. Self concept questionnaire designed by Dr. Rajkumar Saraswat and occupational aspiration scale developed by J.S Grewal has been used to measure the self concept and Occupational Aspiration. Findings showed that (1) significant difference in overall self concept of male and female and direction of difference was in favour of female. (2) No significant difference in overall occupation preference of male and female. (3) self concept has no significant relationship with respect to occupational aspirations of male and female hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh.*

**KEY WORD:** Self- concept, occupational Aspiration, hearing impaired children .

### INTRODUCTION

Hearing impairment is a generic term used to indicate a hearing disability. A hearing impaired person feels difficulty in learning naturally about what is expected of people and why and how to obtain satisfaction of their needs in approved ways. Educational process helps a hearing-impaired child to develop academically and socially. Different educational settings with their particular context of instructional environmental and social factors will probably have some varied influence on the wellbeing of student's overall development. Main interest in the study of self -concept of deaf and hard of hearing and hearing impaired students because it is a dimension of psychological development in which there is an interaction between the cognitive, socio affective, communicative and linguistic aspects. Self-concept is an important construct in Psychology and education. Self-concept can be defined as the object of individuals' own perception or in other words it is the way people think about themselves. Earlier studies (Powers, 1990) indicates that deaf and hard of hearing children had more negative self-concept than their hearing counterparts in terms of communication and social competence due to the developmental delay resulting from early language deprivation. Other studies were comparing the self-concept of deaf and hard of hearing children and their



hearing peers have shown inconsistent results. Some studies have been found higher incidence of low self-concept in deaf and hard of hearing children than in hearing individuals. (Bat-Chava, 1994; Schlesinger, 2000), whereas other studies have been found no difference (Cates, 1990). From the above description clear that it is complex phenomenon to understand how deafness and hearing disability influences the self- concept of children. Self-concept is considered a significant construct within education because of its links to students' achievement, motivation, confidence, and psychological

well-being (Hay, 2005). Many studies on self-concept have addressed the academic domain. This has likely resulted from the relationship found between students' academic self-concept, academic achievement, and academic behaviour (Marsh & Craven, 1997, 2006).

Choosing an occupation is an inevitable and most important event in the life of adolescents. Some students are choosing and more attracted to a certain occupation and others are less attracted to that occupation. In general, Occupational aspirations are the feelings, thoughts, fantasies and goals that people have about their work, that influence their decision making and motivation in respect of their participation and occupational choice in their occupation. Rojewski (2005) defined occupational aspirations as an individual's expressed career related goals or choices that provide important motivational momentum for career-related behaviors and future career and educational success. They can prompt or impede educational and career planning, guide learning, help organize life choices, and facilitate teenagers' preparation for adult life. Setting occupational aspirations is an important developmental task for adolescents. However, teenagers with hearing impairment may face various barriers when they consider the occupational aspirations (e.g. hearing loss, social attitudes, environmental barriers, under-expectation from parents and teachers, deficient vocational abilities, inadequate career exploration experience and fewer working role models, and, etc.). These barriers influence their outcome of occupational aspirations, which contribute to lower aspirations, even no aspirations.

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

### Studies related to Self concept

Archana & Ankita (2014) conducted a study on Academic and Intellectual Self Concept of Hearing Impaired Children. Sample of 100 school going children in the age group of 12 to 17 years were purposively selected from special school for hearing impaired children. Out of which 50 were boys and 50 girls in each category. Self prepared questionnaire was administered on each subject. On the whole the academic self concept was found meaningfully and positively correlated with intellectual self concept of hearing impaired children. But no difference was found in academic and intellectual self concept of girls and boys. Findings revealed that there was no significant difference between academic and intellectual self-concept in boys and girls. They were similar to each other and there was no significant difference between academic and intellectual self-concept with respect to age. The academic and intellectual self-concept of 12-16 years old hearing impaired children is similar to the academic and intellectual self-concept of 17-20 years age group. Gilri & Öztürk (2017) studied on Meta cognitive reading strategies in learning disability and relations between usage level, academic self-efficacy and self-concept. This present study investigated the relationship between the usage levels of meta cognitive reading strategies by students diagnosed with specific learning disability (SLD), academic self-efficacy and the concept of self, in comparison to their typically developing (TD) peers. The data to be used in the study were collected using the Meta cognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies Inventory, the Academic Self-efficacy Scale, the Piers-Harris Children's Self-concept Scale and the Demographics Information Form. The study was conducted among a total of 119 students in the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades in İzmir Province, including 59 students diagnosed with SLD and 60 TD students. Considering the results of the study, in comparison to TD students, students diagnosed with SLD were significantly inadequate in terms of the usage levels of meta-cognitive reading strategies, levels of academic self-efficacy, and the intelligence/school sub-dimensions of the concept of self. Maurya and Singh (2016) studied on a study of self-concept of hearing impaired children in relation to their academic achievement. Descriptive survey method is used in present study. The sample size is 50 students in present study. The total students of B.C.G. (20 students) and Nav vani (30 students) schools of 10th class are taken. In this study, purposive sampling technique was used. Findings of this study showed that (1) the self-concept of most of HI children was of average level. They have high level of self-concept in 'health and physique' but very low self-concept about their 'mental health' and 'socio-economic status'. (2) Most of the hearing impaired children have good academic achievement in their schools. (3) There was positive high level of correlation between self-concept and academic achievement of HI children. Talwar and Kaur (2015)

conducted a study on a Comparative Study of Self Concept and Academic Achievement of Physically Challenged and Normal Students. The study conducted on a sample of 60 secondary school students where 30 consists of physically challenged and 30 normal secondary school students of district Ambala & Yamunanagar. The data was collected with help of self-concept inventory (Real Self and Ideal Self) by Sagar and Sharma, 1971. The two groups of students i.e. physically challenged and normal secondary school students have been found to be significantly different on real self dimension and ideal self dimension of self concept inventory. And the two groups's viz. physically challenged and normal secondary school students were compared with each other on academic achievement, it was found that normal secondary school students have high academic achievement than physically challenged secondary school students.

### STUDIES RELATED TO OCCUPATIONAL ASPIRATION

Alam Mahmood (2016) examined relationships between self-efficacy, self-concept and occupational aspiration of adolescents and revealed that (a) self-efficacy and self-concept have large associations with adolescents' occupational aspiration and (b) there is significant gender and residential differences in the relationships between self-efficacy, self-concept and occupational aspiration of adolescents. No significant relationship was found in self-efficacy and gender of adolescents. Andleeb and Ansari (2016) conducted a comparative study of occupational aspiration and career maturity of senior secondary schools students in relation to gender to study the levels of occupational aspiration and career maturity of secondary school students of Delhi. The present study showed that studies what relationship exists between occupational aspiration and career maturity of secondary school students. This study also compared the occupational aspiration and career maturity of senior secondary school male and female students. This study was conducted on 50 male and 50 female students of class XIth of 2 government senior secondary schools of Delhi. The study concluded that there was a weak and negative relationship between occupational aspiration and career maturity. Male students were found better at high occupational aspiration level while female students had higher career maturity. Bora (2016) assessed the Educational and Occupational aspiration of the Secondary School students in relation to their School Environment. Major findings of the study revealed that most of the Secondary School Students (35.92%) studying in the Secondary Schools of South Kamrup of Assam has Above Average level of Educational Aspiration. 2) It has been found that no Secondary School Student of South Kamrup of Assam have Extremely High level of Educational aspiration. 3) The study also revealed that the formulated null hypothesis "There was no significant difference between the Educational aspiration of boys and girls studying in Secondary Schools of South Kamrup Area of Assam" was accepted. It implied there was no significant difference between Educational Aspiration of boys and girls studying in the Secondary Schools of South Kamrup of Assam. Das and Bhagabati (2016) conducted a Study on Occupational Aspiration of Higher Secondary Girls Students in Nagaon District. The study was deal with the aspirations of girls in selection of their occupation. The sample of the study is 222 higher secondary girls' students. To select the sample stratified random sampling technique used. The finding of the study revealed that there was significant difference in occupational aspiration of different category girls. Gjerustad (2016) study entitled "Occupational aspirations-development and consequences of failure in achievement" and suggested that young people's aspirations for their eventual occupation increase slightly during adolescence, and that there was a relationship between aspiration achievement and factors such as mental health and sickness absence. Furthermore, aspiration achievement was found to explain some of the relationship between socioeconomic background and mental health. In the light of above review of literature, following objective of the study was framed.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the self-concept of Hearing impaired children.
2. To study the occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children.
3. To find out the relationship between self-concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children.

### HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- 1) There is no significant difference in various aspect of the self-concept of male and female Hearing impaired children.
- 2) Occupational aspiration of male and female Hearing impaired children is different.
- 3) There is no significant relationship between self-concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children.

### DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The present study is confined to the followings:

- 1) This study was limited to hearing impairment children studying in secondary schools.
- 2) The study was confined to 150 (96 male and 54 female) hearing-impaired children selected from the secondary schools of hearing-impaired children situated in the three districts (Allahabad, Gorakhpur and Varanasi) of Eastern U.P.
- 3) The study was limited to only self-concept and occupational aspiration of hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of Eastern U.P.

**Method of the study:** Descriptive survey method of research has been used.

**Population of the study:** All the hearing-impaired students (belonging to 14-18 year age group) studying in secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh has been the population of the study

**Sample and Sampling technique:** 150 hearing impaired students (96-male and 54- female student) purposively and incidentally selected from seven schools for the sample of study. Out of these seven schools 27, 36, 16, 55, 09 and 07 number of students were present at the time of data collection has been selected purposively to conduct the survey.

### Tools Used

**1-Self Concept Questionnaire:** Self-concept questionnaire designed by Dr. Rajkumar Saraswat has been used in present study. The inventory contains 48 items. Each dimension contains eight items. Each items provided with five alternatives. This self-concept inventory provides six separate dimensions of self-concept, viz., physical, social, intellectual, moral, Educational and temperamental self-concept. It also gives a total self concept score.

**2- Occupational aspiration Scale:** Occupational Aspiration scale (OAS) developed by J.S. Grewal. The occupational aspiration scale consist eight question having ten preferences of each. These eight questions are categorizing in two types of career point. One is initial career point (After leaving school age) or short range career point and other is mature career point (After 30 year of age) or long range career point. These two career points are also categorize as Idealistic level of expression and realistic level of expression.

### Study area: Eastern Uttar Pradesh

In this study the researcher has been considered 21 districts out of 75 districts of Uttar-Pradesh namely, **Allahabad**, Azamgarh, Ballia, Chandauli, Deoria, Ghazipur, Gonda, **Gorakhpur**, Jaunpur, Kushambi, Kushinagar, Maharajganj, Mau, Mirzapur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Sant Ravidas Nagar, Shrawasti, Siddharth Nagar, Sonbhadra, Sultanpur, and **Varanasi** as the eastern portion of the state of Uttar Pradesh. The data has been collected from three districts (Allahabad, Gorakhpur and Varanasi) of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

### Data Analysis, Result and Discussion

**Objective 1:** To assess the self-concept of Hearing impaired children.

**Hypothesis 1:**  $H_0$  There is no significant difference in various aspect of the self-concept of Male and female Hearing impaired children.

The first objective of the study was to compare the self-concept of male and female of hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh. Descriptive analysis (frequency count & percentage (%)) and inferential analysis were computed and the results of analysis were shown in the Table.

**Table 1: Showing distribution of overall level of self-concept of male female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh**

Raw Score	Female (N=54)		Male (N=96)		Interpretation
	No.	%	No.	%	
193 to 240	19	35.18	15	15.62	High Self-concept
145 to 192	34	62.96	80	83.33	Above Average Self-concept
97 to 144	1	1.85	1	1.04	Average Self-concept
49 to 96	0	0	0	0	Below Average Self-concept
1 to 48	0	0	0	0	Low Self-concept

Observation of above table indicates that 35.18% female and 15.28% male hearing-impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh have high self-concept. Similarly 62.96% female and 83.33% male hearing-impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh have above average self-concept and 1.85% female and 1.04% male hearing-impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh have average self-concept. ***It can be conclude that most of the student has above average and high overall self-concept. No student have found below average self-concept and low self-concept.***

Further analysis of data for comparison between self-concept of Male and female H.I. Children has been done and result of the analysis has been shown in below table 2.

**Table 2: Showing comparison between Self Concepts of Male and Female H.I. Children**

S.No.	Dimensions	Male		Female		t-value
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
1.	Physical	29.05	4.21	30.81	4.30	2.424**
2.	Social	30.63	4.17	31.90	4.14	1.8
3.	Temperamental	27.84	4.52	30.18	4.25	3.163**
4.	Educational	29.38	4.61	31.09	4.79	2.13**
5.	Moral	29.24	3.96	31.64	4.69	3.18**
6.	Intellectual	27.42	4.82	28.24	3.69	1.17
7.	Overall	173.59	18.92	183.88	18.59	3.233**

In the present study observation of the above table showed that mean and SD of physical aspect of self concept of male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 29.05, 4.21: 30.81, 4.30 and calculated t-value was 2.424. This t-value is greater than the table value at 148 d.f. This means that there is significant difference in physical aspect of self concept of male and female and direction of difference was in favour of female.

Similarly mean and SD of social aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 30.63, 4.17: 31.90, 4.14 and calculated t-value was 1.8 that is less than the table value at 148 d.f. Therefore no significant difference in social aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children was found.

Similarly mean and SD of temperamental aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 27.84, 4.52: 30.18, 4.25 and calculated t-value was 3.163 which is greater than the table value at 148 d.f. Therefore significant difference

in Temperamental aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children and direction of difference was in favour of male.

Similarly mean and SD of Educational aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 29.38, 4.61: 31.09, 4.79 and calculated t-value was 2.13. This t-value is greater than the table value at 148 d.f. This means that there is significant difference in Educational aspect of self concept of male and female and direction of difference was in favour of female.

Similarly mean and SD of Moral aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 29.24, 3.96: 31.64, 4.69 and calculated t-value was 3.18. This t-value is greater than the table value at 148 d.f. This means that there is significant difference in Moral aspect of self concept of male and female and direction of difference was in favour of female.

Similarly mean and SD of intellectual aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 27.42, 4.82: 28.24, 3.69 and calculated t-value was 1.17 that is less than the table value at 148 d.f. Therefore no significant difference in intellectual aspect of self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children was found.

Similarly mean and SD of overall self concept of Male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was: 173.59, 18.92: 183.88, 18.59 and calculated t-value was 3.233. This t-value is greater than the table value at 148 d.f. This means that *significant difference in overall self concept of male and female was found and direction of difference was in favour of female. Significant difference in various aspect of self concept between male and female was found except social and intellectual. The direction of difference was in favour of female hearing impaired students studying in the secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh.* Rani, (2012) and Sharma, (2002) have reported high level of Self-concept in student. Similar result was found by (Colangelo et al., 1987; Hotulainen and Shofield, 2003; Kelly and Colangelo, 1984; Kelly and Jordan, 1990; McCoach and Siegle, 2002). In a study conducted by Archana and Ankita (2014) revealed that there is no significant difference between academic and intellectual self-concept in boys and girls. Mekonnen, et al. (2016) concluded that the DHH students in the special school showed a higher self-concept in regard to their physical appearance whereas Maurya and Singh (2016) reported high level of self-concept in 'health and physique'. Revathi (2015) concluded that Collaborative learning was found to be effective in enhancing the academic performance of students with special needs. The tentative reason for the result may be changed perception of society and families regarding girls' education and employment and pro women government policies and facilities. Thus, the first hypothesis was partially accepted.

## **Objective 2: To study the occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children**

### **Hypothesis 2: Occupational aspiration of male and female Hearing impaired children is different**

The second objective of study was to find out the occupational aspiration of male and female Hearing Impaired children. To achieve this objective descriptive and inferential statistics was used and analyses. Data was described in below table 3.

**Table 3: Showing comparison between Occupational Aspiration of Male and Female H.I. Children**

S.No	Variable	Male		Female		t-value
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
1.	Occupational Aspiration	44.84	10.17	42.81	10.33	1.167

Observation of the above table revealed that mean and SD of male and female hearing impaired children studying in secondary schools of eastern Uttar Pradesh was 44.84, 10.17; 42.81,10.33 and calculated t- value was .491 which is less than the table value for 148 degree of freedom. This concludes that statistically no significant difference in overall occupation preference of male and female was found.



Contrary results were reported by Golding 2013; Kalita 2014; UKA Ana 2015) which indicated that males were not significantly different from females on educational and occupational aspirations. In other study by (Lei, 2014) revealed that a considerable proportion of students with hearing impairment were likely to be indecisive about future occupational choice. Talwar and Kaur 2015) also found that normal secondary school students have high academic achievement than physically challenged secondary school students. Maurya and Singh (2016) concluded that Most of the hearing impaired children have good academic achievement. Thus the second hypothesis was rejected and alternate hypothesis was accepted.

**Objective 3: To find out the relationship between self-concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children.**

**Hypothesis 3: There is no significant relationship between self-concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children.**

The third objective of the study was to find out the relationship between self-concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children studying in Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh. On the basis of analysis coefficient of correlations were computed and the results of analysis were shown in the below Table 4.

**Table 4: Relationship between self concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children studying in Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh**

S .No.	Dimensions	Occupational Aspiration	
		Male	Female
1.	Physical	<b>-0.1715*</b>	-0.0957
2.	Social	-0.0435	0.0414
3.	Temperamental	0.0358	0.1037
4.	Educational	-0.0615	-0.0773
5.	Moral	<b>-0.1389*</b>	<b>-0.1561*</b>

\*Significant at .05 level

\*\* Significant at .01 level

The third objective of this present study was to find out the relationship between self concept and occupational aspiration of Hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh. To achieve this objective data was analyses and results indicates that the coefficient of correlation of occupational aspiration of male Hearing impaired students with respect to various dimensions of Self concept viz; Physical, Social. Temporal, Educational, Moral and Intellectual is **-0.1715\***, -0.0435, 0.0358, -0.0615, **-0.1389\*** and **-0.477\*\***. *This indicates that negative and significant relationship between occupational aspirations with Physical, moral and intellectual dimensions of Self-concept of Male Hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh was found. It indicates that increasing Physical, moral and intellectual dimensions of Self-concept can affects occupational aspiration and job preferences in Male Hearing Impaired students.*

Other aspect of self-concept viz; social, temperamental, educational and moral has no significant relationship with respect to *occupational aspirations* of Male Hearing Impaired students.

Similarly on the observation of table, Moral dimension of Self-concept with occupational aspiration of female Hearing Impaired students has significant and negative relationship was found. *This indicates that moral aspect of Self-concept of female Hearing Impaired students contribute negatively in occupational aspiration.*

Other aspect of self-concept viz; physical, social, temperamental, educational and intellectual has no significant relationship with respect to *occupational aspirations* of female Hearing Impaired students.

*Results also indicates that overall self concept has no significant relationship with respect to occupational aspirations of male and female hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh. It indicates that self concept of female hearing impaired have no effect on the occupational aspirations of male female hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh.* Thus, the third hypothesis was partially accepted.

### FINDINGS OF THE STUDY :

1. Descriptive analysis of data indicates that Most of the student has above average and high overall self-concept. No student have found below average self-concept and low self-concept.  
Significant difference in physical, Educational, Moral aspect of self-concept of male and female was found and direction of difference was in favour of female. Whereas significant difference in Temperamental aspect of self-concept of Male and female hearing impaired children and direction of difference was in favour of male. No significant difference in social, intellectual aspect of self-concept of Male and female hearing impaired children was found.
2. Result of the study concludes that statistically no significant difference in overall occupation preference of male and female was found.
3. The result also indicates that negative and significant relationship between occupational aspirations with Physical, moral and intellectual dimensions of Self-concept of Male Hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh were found. It indicates that increasing Physical, moral and intellectual dimensions of Self-concept can affects occupational aspiration and job preferences in Male Hearing Impaired students.

Other aspect of self-concept viz; social, temperamental, educational and moral has no significant relationship with respect to *occupational aspirations* of Male Hearing Impaired students. Moral dimension of Self-concept with occupational aspiration of female Hearing Impaired students has significant and negative relationship was found. *This indicates that moral aspect of Self-concept of female Hearing Impaired students contribute negatively in occupational aspiration.*

Other aspect of self-concept viz; physical, social, temperamental, educational and intellectual has no significant relationship with respect to *occupational aspirations* of female Hearing Impaired students. *Results also indicates that overall self concept has no significant relationship with respect to occupational aspirations of male and female hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh. It indicates that self concept of female hearing impaired have no effect on the occupational aspirations of male female hearing impaired children studying in the Secondary schools of Eastern Uttar-Pradesh.*

### EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

- The result of this study indicates that level of self-concept of most of the hearing-impaired children is average level. Thus effort should be made by parents', teachers' society and policy makers to improve the self-concept of these children. For that some cooperative activities and inclusive approach have been made for these children so that that can get opportunity to mix up with and recognized by society and government as important contributor in national building and development. Existing government policies in this regard should be implemented effectively
- It became necessary to generate interest and aspiration for deferent type of education to make the future secure. It is also essential for the students with special need. Students are the part of general life of the school. They are the ambassadors of school's culture. It is only place that can expose one's emotional intelligence.



- Teacher may provide the educational counseling by the knowing the social, psychological and behavioral capacity of students with special need.

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**Siddharth mani Tripathi**

Research Scholar , Dept of Education, Assam University Silchar Assam.