

REVIEW OF RESEARCH

IMPACT FACTOR : 5.7631(UIF)

UGC APPROVED JOURNAL NO. 48514

ISSN: 2249-894X



VOLUME - 8 | ISSUE - 2 | NOVEMBER - 2018

PERCEPTION OF RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL STUDENTS ON THEIR SCHOOL AND DAY - SCHOLARS

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ABSTRACT

Residential schools are significantly increasing in present epoch. That too the Government of India started the residential schools in rural side to cater the needs of rural intelligent students. more number of rural students admitting to residential schools. The present study is to study the opinion of residential students on their school and what would they feel about day scholars' of non residential schools. The main aim of this study is to find out the opinion of residential school students regarding the facilities provided by their school, about teachers', about teaching, their feelings and their effects with their residential school and to find out their opinion on day – scholars. The present study is qualitative in nature. Random sampling technique was used. The sample of the study was residential school students of Belagavi District. This study was conducted on 504 students belonging to private and government residential schools. The results shown that residential schools have positive effect on students but despite having positive effects on students there remains certain areas for improvement.

KEYWORDS: Random sampling technique, education system, marginalized society.

I.INTRODUCTION

Education improves the ability, capacity, efficiency and competency of an individual. The significance of education has compelled every country to put apart some part of their budget for the education of its citizens. India too has a very splendid tradition of learning. An interesting feature of Indian tradition was that its education system was residential type. Students used to live in their teacher's house called 'Gurukuls,' and studied mathematics, science, languages etc. These gurukuls are now called 'Residential Schools.'

People chose residential schools for various reasons. In modern age, where both parents are working, it becomes difficult for them to pay attention to the children, so these parents prefer residential schools for their children. Many people living in far flung places where there are no good schools and atmosphere is also not conductive for studies also put their children in residential school to educate them. Even Indian government to achieve 100% literacy has commenced many residential schools and is providing students with all facilities so that the children belonging to the marginalized society are not left out.

Residing in residential school is a boon for students, as it not only makes them self – reliant, confident and disciplined but also provides them with an academic environment. But living in residential school is not easy as it brings lots of changes in student's life. They have to live away from their parents in an atmosphere where there is no casualness. The daily routine is often very strict. There is lot of pressure on students to perform well in studies and teachers are often untrained, strict and unsympathetic. This all leads to maladjustment and there are few students who leave the school without completing their studies.

II SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

There is a correlation between adjustment and satisfaction. Unless and until students are not satisfied by their school, they can't be happy and will not be able to progress well in their studies. Researcher wanted to study the student's perception about their school, teachers, day scholars and their feelings and affects their residential school had on them. Researcher wanted to see whether residential school students have adjusted themselves properly in their schools and whether staying in residential school have made some positive changes in their overall personality. Researcher also wanted to see whether residential schools are able to fulfill their purpose for which they have been set up.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. To study the facilities provided to students by residential schools.
- 2. To study the opinion of residential students about their teachers teaching in residential schools.
- 3. To study the feelings and effect of residential school has on their students.
- 4. To study the opinion of residential students about day scholars.

IV. Methodology

IV(i) Method of the Study

Method adopted for this research study is qualitative in nature. Survey method was employed for the present study.

IV(ii) Sampling

Belagavi District has 10 Talukas, out of which 5 Talukas were selected for this study. With the help of Random Sampling technique 16 schools were selected. For the present study Random Sampling technique was used. The sample of the study was 504 students belonging to private and government residential schools. Selected sample presented in the table no.1.

| Table no. 1 – Categorization of Sample | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|----------|-----------|------------------------------|----------------|----------|-------|
| Government Residential Schools (8) | | | Priv | ate Residenti | al Schools (8) | | |
| Urban Schools (4) | | Rural Sc | hools (4) | Urban Schools (4) Rural Scho | | ools (4) | |
| Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls |
| 63 | 63 | 63 | 63 | 63 | 63 | 63 | 63 |

Table no. 1 – Categorization of Sample

IV(iii) Tools used for the study

A questionnaire is prepared to know about the views of the respondents. The researcher wanted to know the view of residential students about their school. The questionnaire prepared consists of four sections. Each section consists of items related to the important aspects of the life of residential students. While preparing the items of questionnaire opinion was taken from various people like principals, teachers, hostel wardens and other people, and it is validated by 30 experts from the field of research and education. After preparing the items, they were sent to the experts in the field of education, senior teachers and language experts for its validation. The suggestions of the experts were taken very seriously by the researcher and the items were amended accordingly. Items were finalized and a pilot study was conducted. For pilot study one residential school was selected. Students belonging to class 9th and 10th were selected. Students were selected through random sampling. Items were amended accordingly and the researcher went for data collection.

IV(iv) Data Collection

Data was collected from residential school students of Belagavi district. Researcher personally went to each and every school to collect data. Proper instructions and time was given to the students to fill the

questionnaire. This study was conducted on 504 students belonging to private and government residential schools.

IV(v) Statistical technique

The data has been collected and analyzed through the percentage of their responses.

V RESULTS

Even though the private and Government residential school students had been chosen for the study, Present paper had shown the result in total. To avoid length of the paper the comparison in between private and Government has not shown in present article. The tool has four sections. The obtained result explained as below.

Section -1 Opinon on facilities Provided to the Residential School

The first section deals about the facilities provided by the residential schools to their students. So, objective no. 1 is to study the facilities provided to students by residential schools.

| S. No | Questions | Yes % | No% |
|-------|---|-------|-------|
| 1. | Are you satisfied with the infrastructure provided by your residential school? | 91.47 | 8.53 |
| 2. | Is your room clean and airy? | 91.27 | 8.73 |
| 3. | Do you have enough space in your room to keep your things? | 81.35 | 18.65 |
| 4. | Are the bathrooms and toilets clean and tidy? | 85.52 | 14.48 |
| 5. | Are the classrooms well – lit, airy and well furnished? | 90.48 | 9.52 |
| 6. | Do you have computer and science labs in your school? | 87.70 | 12.30 |
| 7. | Does the school have adequate place or field for children to play? | 88.49 | 11.51 |
| 8. | Is the food provided by the school hygienic and healthy? | 90.28 | 9.72 |
| 9. | Is the school organization very strict in following all the rules and regulations made by it? | 88.49 | 11.51 |
| 10. | Does the school organization allow students to meet their parents frequently? | 65.87 | 34.13 |
| 11. | Does the school organization organize picnic and outings for the students? | 78.57 | 21.43 |
| 12. | Is there enough staff to take care of the students? | 90.87 | 9.13 |
| 13. | Are there enough teachers to guide the students after the school? | 91.87 | 8.13 |
| 14. | Are you satisfied by the medical facilities provided by the school? | 84.13 | 15.87 |

Table no.2-Students responses about the facilities provided to students by residential school

Table no. 2 shows that -

- 1. Nearly 91.47% of students were satisfied by the infrastructure provided by their schools only 8.53% of students were unsatisfied. This result shows that residential schools are trying their best to improve the facilities to attract more students.
- 2. 91.27% of students express satisfaction by the cleanliness of their rooms while 8.73% of the students were not satisfied. This shows that residential schools are taking special care to provide clean environment to their students.
- 3. 81.35% of students were satisfied by the space provided to them to keep their thing properly while 18.65% of students showed their dissatisfaction. It was seen that few residential schools due to lack of space accumulate more students in a room. But overall majority of students appeared quite satisfied.

- 4. 85.52% of students express satisfaction by the cleanliness of their bathrooms and toilets but 14.48% of students are still not satisfied by the cleanliness of their school. The result points out that majority of school pay attention towards cleanliness of bathrooms and toilets.
- 5. 90.48% of students are satisfied by their classroom where they spend nearly 6 to 7 hours of the day but 9.52% of students are not satisfied by their classrooms. The result shows that residential schools are doing their best to make children comfortable in classrooms.
- 6. 87.70% of students said that their school have computer and science labs while 12.30% of students answered negatively. Computers and science labs are necessary in schools and result shows that majority of schools have these facilities.
- 7. 88.49% of students said that their school has adequate space for them to play. But 11.51% of students answered negatively. The result shows that majority of schools have provided space for students to play.
- 8. 90.28% of students confirmed that their school provides them with healthy and hygienic food whereas 9.72% of students answered in negative. The result shows that residential schools are doing their best to provide appropriate food to their students.
- 9. 88.49% of students confirmed that their school is very strict in following rules and regulations while 11.51% of students disagreed. The result shows that residential schools follow the rules very strictly.
- 10. 65.87% of students confirmed that they are allowed to meet their parents frequently whereas 34.14% of students were not satisfied. The result shows that many students want to meet their parents frequently.
- 11. 78.57% of students said that the school organization organizes educational tours, picnics and outings for the students while 21.43% of students answered negatively. The result shows that not all schools are organizing tours and picnic for their students.
- 12. 90.87% of students confirmed that there is enough staff to take care of them while 9.13 % of students were not satisfied by the number of staff appointed to take care of them. The result shows that there is enough staff in schools to take care of the students.
- 13. 91.87% students agreed that there are enough teachers to guide them after school whereas 8.13% of students express their dissatisfaction in this regard. The result shows that there are enough teachers in the residential schools to guide the students.
- 14. 84.13% of students appeared to be satisfied by the medical facilities provided by their school while 15.87% students are not satisfied. The result shows that medical facilities provided by the schools are adequate for the students.

This section of questionnaire has 14 questions.12 questions got positive response of about more than 80%. Students showed their dissatisfaction in two areas-

- 1. Does the school organization allow students to meet their parents frequently?
- Does the school organization organize picnic and outings for the students? The results revealed that majority of the students were quite satisfied by the facilities provided by their schools. It was also found out that few students want to meet their parents frequently and that students want more outdoor activities to be arranged by the school.

Section -2 Teachers' Teaching

Objective no.2 is to study the opinion of residential students about their teachers teaching in residential schools.

| S. No | Questions | Yes % | No % |
|-------|--|-------|-------|
| 1. | Do your teachers help you with your homework? | 88.29 | 11.71 |
| 2. | Do you think that your teachers take good care of you like your parents? | 82.34 | 17.66 |
| 3. | Do your teachers take interest in solving your day to day problems? | 87.5 | 12.5 |

Table no.3 – Students responses regarding their teachers teaching

| 4. | Do your teachers encourage you to participate in extra- curricular activities? | 90.87 | 9.13 |
|-----|---|-------|-------|
| 5. | Do your teachers take extra classes for slow learning students? | 92.27 | 7.73 |
| 6. | Are you satisfied by the teaching methods adopted by your teachers to teach you? | 90.28 | 9.72 |
| 7. | Do you think that the presence of teachers in residential school makes the atmosphere conductive for studies? | 92.27 | 7.73 |
| 8. | Do your teachers give you sufficient free time for activities in school? | 87.10 | 12.90 |
| 9. | Is quick help provided by the resident teacher quite beneficial to you? | 86.91 | 13.09 |
| 10. | Are you able to share your problems with your teacher? | 83.13 | 16.87 |
| 11. | Are you able to study well without any tension? | 77.18 | 22.82 |
| 12. | Do your teachers behave with you in friendly manner? | 88.69 | 11.31 |
| 13. | Do your teachers help you in developing your personality, self – confidence, etc. | 94.84 | 5.16 |
| 14. | Do you have a counseling cell in your school? | 55.16 | 44.84 |

Table no 3 shows that-

- 1. 88.29% of students replied positively to question no. 1 only 11.71% of students replied negatively. The result shows that teachers help students in their studies.
- 2. 82.34% of students agreed that their teachers take good care of them but 17.66% of students look disappointed by their teachers. The result shows teachers in positive light.
- 3. 87.5% of students confirmed that their teachers take interest in solving their day to day problems whereas 12.5% of students appeared to be disappointed by their teachers. The result shows that teachers of residential school don't neglect their students and try to solve their problems.
- 4. 90.87% of students said that they are encouraged by their teachers to participate in extra -curricular activities while 9.13% of students replied negatively. The result shows that constant encouragement is given to students by teachers.
- 5. 92.27% of students affirmed that teachers take extra classes for weak students but 7.73% of students disagreed. The result shows that special classes are taken for weak students.
- 6. 90.28 % of students said that they are satisfied by the teaching methods adopted by their teachers to teach them while 9.72% of students expressed their dissatisfaction. The result shows that teachers adopt appropriate methods to teacher students.
- 7. 92.27% of children affirmed that the presence of teachers makes the atmosphere of residential school conductive for studies whereas 7.73% of students do not think in that manner. The result shows that presence of teachers is important in residential schools.
- 8. 87.10% of students agreed that they are given free time by their teachers for activities other than studies in their school while 12.90% students answered in negative. The result shows that sufficient free time is given to students to help them to participate in activities other than studies.
- 9. 86.91% of students agreed that the quick help provided by their teachers were beneficial to them but 13.09% of students disagree. The result shows that teachers help is beneficial for students.
- 10. 83.13% of students said that they are able to share their problem with their teachers but 16.87% of students were unable to share their problems with their teachers. The result shows that students have confidence in their teachers.
- 11. 77.18% students said that they are able to study without any tension but 22.82% of students refute these claims. The result shows that few students face problems while studying which cause tension.

- 12. 88.69% of students said that their teachers behave in friendly manner with them while 11.31% of students disagreed. The result shows that teachers are trying their best to provide homely atmosphere to the students.
- 13. 94.84% of students affirmed that there teachers help them in developing their personality but 5.16% of students replied negatively. The result shows that students are aware that their teachers are doing their best to help them.
- 14. 55.16% of students said that there is a counseling cell in their school but nearly 44.84% of children said that there is no counseling cell in their school. The result shows that few residential schools have no counseling cell in their schools.

Section 2 of questionnaire consists of 14 questions. All questions except two got more than 80% positive replies. These two questions are-

- 1. Are you able to study well without any tension?
- 2. Do you have a counseling cell in your school?

By the above results it can be interpreted that majority of the students were satisfied by their teachers, but still there is a scope for improvement as few children have pointed out that they experience tension while studying. This may be due to the fact that many schools do not have counselor in their school. Residential school students live away from their parents and there is nobody with whom they can express their fears, anxiety, apprehensions and problems.

Section -3 feelings and effects

Objective no. 3 is to study the feelings and effects of residential school has on their students.

| S. No. | Questions | Yes | No |
|--------|--|-------|-------|
| 1. | Are you happy with your present residence? | 87.70 | 12.30 |
| 2. | Do you feel lonely in school? | 34.13 | 65.87 |
| 3. | Do you often remember your parents? | 72.22 | 27.78 |
| 4. | Have you made new friends in school? | 95.83 | 4.17 |
| 5. | Are you able to concentrate in your studies? | 93.25 | 6.75 |
| 6. | Do you miss the festival celebrations of your home? | 73.61 | 26.39 |
| 7. | Do you anxiously wait for holidays, to go home? | 63.49 | 36.51 |
| 8. | Do you think that it is necessary to live away from your parents for the complete development of personality? | 64.48 | 35.52 |
| 9. | Do you feel that the environment of residential school has made you calm and rational? | 84.72 | 15.28 |
| 10. | Do you think that the residential school has helped your parents to provide you with good education? | 95.04 | 4.96 |
| 11. | Has living in residential school made you more responsible and discipline? | 96.23 | 3.77 |
| 12. | Has living in residential school made you become self dependent? | 90.28 | 9.72 |
| 13. | Do you feel that residential school students have more opportunities to participate in extra- curricular activities? | 88.89 | 11.11 |
| 14 | Do you really feel to have parental care when you feel anxious to write exams and when you are sick? | 68.65 | 31.35 |
| 15. | Have you become more friendly and helpful after joining the residential school? | 90.08 | 9.92 |
| 16. | Do you feel that the rules of the school should be flexible? | 74.01 | 25.99 |
| 17. | Have you noticed any changes in your personality after you have | 89.89 | 10.11 |

Table no.4 – Students responses regarding their feelings and effects

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| | come to live in residential school? | | |
|-----|---|-------|-------|
| 18. | Will you advice your friends to live in residential school? | 78.17 | 21.83 |

Table no 4 shows that-

- 1. 87.70% of students say that they are happy with their present residence while 12.30% of students are not happy. The results show that majority of students are satisfied by their school.
- 2. 34.13% of students feel lonely in residential school while 65.87% of students do not feel lonely. The results show that students enjoy their friends company in residential school.
- 3. 72.22% of students often remember their parents whereas 27.78% of students do not. The results show that majority of students miss their parents.
- 4. 95.83% of students say that they have made new friends in school, only 4.17% of students answered negatively. This result shows that residential students have adjusted themselves well in the schools.
- 5. 93.25% of students say that they are able to concentrate in their studies while 6.75% of students are unable to concentrate. This result shows students adjustment to their schools.
- 6. 73.61% of students miss the festival celebrations of their home while 26.39% of students do not miss the celebrations. The result shows that residential school students miss their home very much.
- 7. 63.49% of students wait anxiously for holidays to go home while 36.51% of students do not. The result shows that majority of students are happy to go home.
- 8. 64.48% of students think that it is necessary to live away from their parents for the complete development of personality whereas 35.51% of students do not feel so. The result shows that students realize the importance of living in residential school for their education.
- 9. 84.72% of students feel that the environment of residential school has made them calm and rational whereas 15.28% of students answered in negative. The result shows the positive effect of residential school on students.
- 10. 95.04% of students are of the opinion that the residential school has helped their parents to provide them with good education but 4.96% of students denied it. The result shows that residential students are aware of the fact that residential schools are good for their education.
- 11. 96.23% of students agreed that living in residential school has made them more responsible and discipline but 3.77% of students do not agree. The result shows that majority of students are seeing positive changes in their personality after joining residential school.
- 12. 90.28% of students agreed that living in residential school has made them become self dependent whereas 9.72% of students do not think so. The result shows improvement in students overall personality.
- 13. 88.89% of students feel that residential school students have more opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities while 11.11% of students do not feel so. The result shows that residential schools are providing more opportunities to students to participate in extra- curricular activities.
- 14. 68.65% of students feel to have parental care when they feel anxious to write exams and when they are sick whereas 31.35% of students do not feel so. The result shows that residential students miss their parents when they are not well and when they are writing exams.
- 15. 90.08% of students say that they have become more friendly and helpful after joining the residential school but 9.92% of students denied it. The result shows that living in residential schools has positive effect on the students.
- 16. 74.01% of students feel that the rules of the school should be flexible while 25.99% of students do not agree. The result shows that students want the rules to be lenient.
- 17. 89.89% of students have noticed changes in their personality after they have come to live in residential school but 10.11% of students have not noticed any change. The result shows that living in residential schools have brought visible changes in student's personality.
- 18. 78.17% of students says that they advice their friends to live in residential school whereas 21.83% of students say that they will not give such advice. The result shows that majority of students feel that residential schools are good for students.

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Section 3 of the questionnaire has 18 questions.13 questions got positive response. Students showed their dissatisfaction in these areas-

- 1. Do you often remember your parents?
- 2. Do you miss the festival celebrations of your home?
- 3. Do you anxiously wait for holidays, to go home?
- 4. Do you really feel to have parental care when you feel anxious to write exams and when you are sick?
- 5. Do you feel that the rules of the school should be flexible?

By the above result it can be interpreted that students miss their parents badly. Students also miss the festival celebrations and wait for holidays to go home. Students also pointed out that the rules of residential schools are very strict.

Section -4 Students responses on day scholars.

Objective no. 4 is to study the opinion of residential students has about day scholars.

| S. No | Questions | Yes% | No% |
|-------|--|-------|-------|
| 1. | Do think that day scholars have few friends in comparison to residential students? | 65.08 | 34.92 |
| 2. | Are day scholars able to deal with people more effectively compared to residential school students? | 63.69 | 36.31 |
| 3. | Do you think that the day scholars are not very helpful? | 46.83 | 53.17 |
| 4. | Do you think that day scholar routine is better than yours? | 51.59 | 48.41 |
| 5. | Do you think that day scholars are less competent than residential school students? | 57.74 | 42.26 |
| 6. | Do you think that the confidence level of day scholars is high due to the presence of their parents? | 64.09 | 35.91 |
| 7. | Do you think that day scholars enjoy more freedom than the residential students? | 68.06 | 31.94 |
| 8. | Do you think that day scholars are less capable to take independent decisions? | 58.14 | 41.86 |
| 9. | Do you think that the day scholars are smart and bold? | 54.37 | 45.63 |
| 10. | Do you think that day school study is better than the residential school study? | 54.37 | 45.63 |

Table no.5 – Students responses about day scholars.

Table no 5 shows that-

- 1. 65.08% of students say that day scholars have fewer friends in comparison to residential students whereas 34.92% of students disagree. The result shows that residential students get more chances to make friends than day scholars.
- 2. 63.69% of students agree that day scholars are able to deal with people more effectively compared to residential school students while 36.31% of students disagree. The result shows that residential students feel that day scholars are smart and bold.
- 3. 46.83% of students say that day scholars are not helpful but majority of students i.e. 53.17% of students disagree. The result shows that residential students have positive opinion about day scholars.
- 4. 51.59% of students confirm that day scholar's routine is better than theirs whereas 48.41% of students disagree. This shows that residential students want some changes in their routine.
- 5. 57.74% of students think that day scholars are less competent while 42.26% of students disagree. The result shows that majority of residential students consider themselves more competent than day scholars.

- 6. 64.09% of students agree that the confidence level of day scholars is high due to the presence of their parents while 35.91% of students disagree. The result shows that residential students miss the love and care of their parents.
- 68.06% of students say that day scholars enjoy more freedom than the residential students whereas 31.94% of students do not think so. The result shows that residential students want rules to be lenient so that they can get more freedom.
- 8. 58.14% of students feel that day scholars are less capable to take independent decisions while 41.86% feel otherwise. The result shows that residential students have negative opinion about decision making abilities of day scholars.
- 9. 54.37% of students find day scholars bold and smart while 45.63% of students do not have positive opinion about day scholars in this case. The result shows that majority of residential students have positive opinion about day scholars.
- 10. 54.37% feel that day school study is better than the residential school study while 45.63% of students disagree. The result shows that residential students find day schools study better than theirs.

Section 4 has 10 questions which reflect the thinking and opinion of residential school students about day scholars. Four questions got negative opinions about day scholars. These questions are-

- 1. Do think that day scholars have few friends in comparison to residential students?
- 2. Do you think that day scholars are less competent than residential school students?
- 3. Do you think that the confidence level of day scholars is high due to the presence of their parents?
- 4. Do you think that day scholars are less capable to take independent decisions?

By the above result, it can be interpreted that on the whole majority of residential students have positive opinion about day scholars. Residential students find day scholars smart, bold and confident. Residential students also find day scholar study to be comparatively better than theirs. But residential students also find day scholars to be incompetent and less capable of taking independent decision.

Major Findings

- 1. The facilities provided by the residential schools are quite satisfactory. Children therefore are able to adjust well in school but they want to meet their parents quite frequently and also they want more outdoor activities arranged by the school for them.
- 2. Only few schools have counseling cell. As children live far from their parents they need somebody who can hear their problem, understand them and suggest solutions. Therefore, a trained counselor is a must in all schools
- 3. Residential students find day scholars smart, bold and confident.
- 4. Residential students find the routine and study of day scholars better than theirs.
- 5. Rules and regulation of residential schools are very strict.
- 6. Residential students miss their parents very much and they anxiously wait for holiday.
- Residential school students are aware of the fact that education is very important and it is necessary for them to live away from their parents to pursue their education and for the development of their personality.
- 8. Living in residential school has made students very responsible, self- dependent and rational.

RECOMMANDATIONS

- 1. All schools should have counseling cell. Every teacher teaching in residential school should be given exclusive training in guidance and counseling. Workshops should be conducted, to increase the awareness of teachers, by specialist in child psychology.
- 2. Rules and regulations of school should not be very strict and sufficient free time should be given to students so that they may be able to pursue other activities apart from studies.
- 3. Children should not be forced to do things they do not like for e.g. many children hate sports.

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- 4. School should arrange more outdoor activities for the students.
- 5. Weak students should be identified and exclusive classes should be arranged for them.
- 6. Children should be taught life skills such as time management, critical thinking, effective communication and social amity. This will make them smart, bold and confident.

CONCLUSION

Since time immortal India has a rich tradition of learning and the concept of residential school is not new to India. The aim of this study is to identify the effects of residential school experiences on students' adjustment and personality development. The findings showed the positive effect of residential school on students. These finding have direct implications on issues relevant to residential schools. The findings are relevant for both government as well as private school managements as it will help them not only to understand their students but also it will help them to enhance facilities according to students needs. This study will help parents to make decisions about their children schooling preferences.

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