

## Reviewing the Factors that hinder academic achievement of the students

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### Abstract

*Education is considered as vital for not simply the progress of the individuals, but also for the improvement of community and country. In order to take about enhancements in all aspects, and apply modern advanced practices and methods, individuals want to produce readiness and improve their educational abilities. The key purpose of this review paper is to comprehend the issues that stimulate the academic performance of the students in schools. In schools, there are several factors within school and outside school that affect the academic achievement of the students. The main areas that have been taken into justification include, factors affecting the academic achievement of the students, academic achievements and large number of students in class, family and related issues relating to academic achievement, involvement of school features towards the academic achievement of students, impact of poverty on academic achievement of students and other causes of low academic achievement.*

**Keywords:** Academic achievement, Education, Learning, Poverty, Schools, Students, Teachers

### 1. Introduction

Education is one of the commanding aspects that not only teaches the important skills, capacities and knowledge among the individuals, but also leads to inclusive growth and improvement of the individuals, community and nation as a whole. An educated person is not only able to accomplish his wanted goals and objectives, but is also able to reduce an efficient input towards the safety of the community. The inculcation of academic knowledge, skills, abilities and aptitude among the individuals is improved through education and academic performance. In schools, there are several issues that contribute an important part in improving the academic performance of students. The academic performance governs the coming goals and aims of students. Education is an important industry for social, political, economic development and is being affected by the environment within which it exists (Adediran, Ojomo & Adeyanju, 2015)

The elements of educational performance of the students comprise, class participation, class tasks, homework, projects, quizzes, examinations, and involvement in competitions or other actions. The burden of the parents and other individuals upon teachers and school administrators to increase the academic performance has allowed schools to come up with progressive approaches. These include, supporting additional classes for learners, familiarizing actual teaching-learning approaches and instructional plans, expending technology, satisfying students for good performance serves as an interesting factor and when they achieve low grades, than they usually tend to work more to make enhancements (Nyagosia, 2011). When teachers device the approaches for satisfying good performance, then they would be interested to study and improve their academic performance.

### **1.1. Objectives of the seminar**

- To review the factors that affect students' academic achievements

#### **1.1.1. Specific objectives**

- To identify the factors that affect students' academic achievements
- To know Contribution of School Factors on students' Academic Performance
- To Assess Influence of Poverty on Academic Achievement of Students

#### **Review of related literature**

### **2. Factorshinder the Academic achievement of the Students**

#### **2.1. Achievement**

Achievement is something which someone has succeeded in doing, especially after a lot of effort. The scientific study of achievement encompasses data coming from experiments with word lists as well as from the acquisition of complex domains like computer programming, mathematics or the way in which people solve physics problems at the experimental level. Achievement is referred to as gaining, learning or knowledge representation sometimes depending on theoretical biases. Achievement is the word preferred in the educational or psychometric fields being sometimes characterized by the degree of inference to a cognitive process made explicit in the measurement tool. In Standard for test construction. Achievement is viewed basically as the competence a person have in an area of content. This competence is the result of many intellectual variables. OECD (2009) has shown that the achievement of the students is related to the amount of time set aside for the subject.

#### **2.1.1 Attitude of the Students**

In schools, most of the students are between 7 to 24 years of age. They have the capacities to distinguish between what is suitable and what is unsuitable. Goal-oriented students usually hold positive approaches concerning their school practices; they hold the behaviors of correction, attentiveness, and creativity, are devoted readers and tend to devote less time towards refreshment and relaxation activities. It is vital for the students to have positive thinking in terms of their schools, teachers and academic subjects. With positive attitude, they will be able to devote themselves totally towards learning and generate the desired academic outcomes (Maina, 2010).

#### **2.1.2. Resources in school**

Within schools, it is vital to make establishment of resources that can be employed to improve the academic achievement of students. The learning materials, modules, hand-outs, equipment, library facilities and laboratory facilities, especially in science subjects should include the necessary laboratory resources. When students will be

provided the necessary tools and equipment, they will be able to obtain a better accepting concerning academic ideas and how to achieve the experiments (Luketic, and Dolan, 2014). In some cases, particularly the students going to depressed, marginalized and socio-economically backward sections of the society cannot give the books and resources required for learning, hence, they are dependent upon the library facilities and fellow students to obtain the books and other materials (Maina, 2010). Some of the necessary learning materials have been detailed as follows:

**2.1.2.1. Library Facilities** The library is the place, where students usually are able to get the necessary materials that are made use to improve one's learning. It is the room, in which the collection of books, newspapers, articles and papers are kept. Library is essential for the individuals to read and borrow. It is also essential in the teaching-learning processes. It is regarded as one of the most important educational services. The main purpose of the libraries is to improve their learning and academic performance. In the present existence, the libraries also have computers, so that students can make use of them. It makes provision of support and assistance in the teaching-learning processes and provides service and guidance to the individuals (David, 2014).

**2.1.2.2. Laboratory Facilities** – The laboratory is considered as a area or a building, particularly constructed for teaching by demonstration of a theoretical phenomenon into practical terms. Laboratories are made use of in the teaching-learning methods and tests mostly associated to science subjects. Within the laboratory, the teachers provide practical demonstration of the concept. The students tend to remember more what they detect rather than what they hear. It can be defined as a place, where hypothetical work is set into practical (Luketic, and Dolan, 2014). Practical work in the learning of academic concepts includes learners in activities such as, observing, measuring, testing, recording, inspecting, , evaluating and field-work. The science subjects not only involve the use of procedures and trials. The information learned through laboratory work also stays within the attention of the individuals for long period of time. Laboratories have multiple benefits ranging from making learning concrete to lying basis for science education in the subsequent levels (Woodfeld, and Earl-Novell, 2006)..

### **2.1.3. Leadership Aspects**

The chief, teachers and other directorial staff members of the school are assigned with the expert to implement the executive tasks of scheduling, organizing, governing, and controlling the activities. The chief primarily has the right to make decisions. The decisions can be made either at one's own choice or they may check others and pursue concepts and recommendations from teachers and other staff members of the school. The main role of leadership aspects in inducing the academic products of the students is based upon the administration and management of the school (Adhiambo, 2016). Transformational leadership may work to create a better teaching and learning environment, unless effort is made to generate specific goals, objectives, and lessons, there is a small probability of having an impact on student achievement (Hattie's 2009).

### **2.1.4 Skills and Abilities of the Teachers**

Teachers have a vital role in manipulating the academic performance of the students. They are donated with the specialist to direct all the classroom events and administer learning. It is vital for the teachers to have the characters of professionalism and carefulness. They need to have an open-minded nature, attend and deliver results to the problems practiced by the students. They should have acceptable understanding and information concerning the issues that they are training, usage of technology, modern and advanced approaches in the teaching and learning

progressions, working correction and leading all of the classroom as well as school actions and functions in a well-planned way. The teachers in some cases are firm, but severity should be continued within borders. The main objective of the teachers should only be to improve the academic performance of the students and lead to their effective development. Physical resources and staff competence are important in determining the performance of students (Abbasi and Mir 2012)

#### **2.1.5. Environment**

The academic concepts are made well-known to the students by the teachers within classroom. Teachers have the core job burden of concluding the subject program. Consequently, it is vital that classroom situation should be well-organized and well-ordered. Within the classroom, it is vital for the teachers and the students to implement the traits of goodness and morals. It is important to help joint understanding, friendliness and co-task among the teachers and students as well as among the corresponding students (Luketic, and Dolan, 2014). The effectiveness in the controlling of the classroom familiarizes a well-planned and effective administration of the lesson plans, instructional approaches, teaching-learning processes and so forth. When there is self-control and effective communication among the individuals, then it would help the students study well and progress their academic performance. Learning environment could have potential influence on students' achievement (Akpan 2012).

#### **2.1.6. Role of Parents**

Home is the place from where the basis of learning and education takes place. In order to create good academic products, it is energetic for the parents, children and other family members to inspire a learning atmosphere within homes. For example, when students practice problems in certain subjects, then parents are accountable for providing help. This help may be in the form of private instructions or they themselves may explain their children. They make establishment of technology and other learning resources at home to improve the academic achievement of their children. Parents play an important role in leading to operative growth and development of their children (Kudari, 2016). In schools, whatever problems that children go through concerning academics and other areas, they usually transfer to their parents. Parents are bases of safety help and help their children in providing solutions to their problems. Families where the parents are advantaged socially, educationally and economically foster a high level of achievement in their children.

#### **2.1.7. Social Circle**

Children get joined in schools not only to learn academic concepts, but they also learn, how to cooperate and socialize with others. Students regularly form friendly relationships and dealings with the related students. Developing a social circle and relationship has encouraging effect upon the academic products of the students. As when one has to effort on a project or make for a test, then group study is in most cases advantageous. It also sources social pleasure and happiness in one's student life (Considine, and Zappala, 2002) Establishing a social circle displays to be supportive to the individuals in number of behaviors, such as, responding to academic problems, getting involved in relaxation activities, distribution of choices and burdens, and so forth.

#### **2.1.8. Psychological and Health Related Factors**

Learning is not an easy activity for the students. It is essential for them to possess care, innovation and care to develop their learning. In order to produce positive academic products, it is vital for the students to continue their

emotional and physical health. When a student is well healthy, then he will be able to donate an active role towards learning. On the other hand, factors such as, rigidity, anxiety, fear, disturbance, sadness or physical health problems demonstrate to be disorders within the improvement of their academic achievement. It is important for the students to take wish and look towards their school and classroom activities from a positive perspective(Srinivas, and Venkatkrishnan, 2016).

#### **2.1.8.1. Motivating and Encouraging Students**

In academic learning, some of the perceptions are challenging to obtain and appreciate. When problems and complications are skilled by the students, then they need to gain help from others. When students are incapable to reach the chosen grades, then as an alternative of receiving irritated on them, the teachers and parents want to make facility of benefit and support. They should encourage the students and inspire them to do healthy in coming. They need to know their weaknesses and help them. When students catch certain areas problematic to learn, then teachers should replication the ideas, deliver them class and homework projects, so that they are able to acquire complete understanding of the concepts (Akpan 2012).

#### **2.1.8.2 Visual and Hearing Impairments**

Visual and hearing difficulties are stated as the disease related factors. There are students, who affected by these problems. But when they are achievement-oriented, they do not let these problems become obstacles within the course of realization of their academic purposes. When these problems are severe and the students do not have incomes to simplify learning, then it is expected that their academic achievement may get affected in a negative manner. A visual difficulty usually imposes problems in handwriting and seeing the black-boards. Hearing difficulties imposes problems in attending to the directions and descriptions given by the teachers within classrooms and it is related with poor language development. It hinders the communication abilities of the students and hence their academic performance gets influenced in a negative manner (Shamsudin *et al.*, 2014).

#### **2.1.8.3. Counseling and Guidance Services**

In school, there are several problems and difficulties that students face. Many schools had not established counseling programs at schools. So the students discipline was low, hence, low academic performance. Some may even get involved into immoral acts, drug abuse, ,unplanned pregnancies,and abortions. These factors have a direct impact upon not only their academic performance, but also their future life. These may hinder their mental attitude and they may even experience problems of depression. It is important for the individuals, who work as counselors to specialize in a particular area and possess acceptable knowledge, capability and abilities. Counseling is related to various areas, such as job, academics stress, health, and family issues (Sunita, and Annu 2013).

#### **2.1.8.4. Time Management**

Most schools have a busy timetable; hence it is important for them to create awareness in terms of real time management. Research has indicated that the normal schedule of the students contains school hours, and then they want to devote time in completion of project and assignments. They also involved in some kinds of extra-curricular actions and sports. Playing and getting engaged in creative activities, not only help them concentrate better, but they

also are able to stimulate their mind-sets (OECD, 2009). For the students, it is important to get involved in additional activities and for this purpose; they need to implement appropriate time management abilities. It is crucial for the students to make a balance between all the responsibilities and activities. The activities that are more important should be given more time and lesser amount of time can be spent on the activities that are less important (Bas, 2010).

#### **2.1.8.5. Home Environment**

The home environment should be sociable and enjoyable in order to produce suitable academic results. Within home, among the family members, it is energetic to initiate actions to form actual terms and associations. They should communicate with each other in a suitable way and reduce the existence of conflicts and differences. Research has specified that conflicts may take place among family members in terms of use of technology; hence, it is important for the parents to guarantee that all families are provided with the needed resources to improve their learning. The availability of supplies and sociable environmental conditions with the home are important for the students to focus on studies and make the needed academic outcomes (Dounary, 2006).

#### **2.1.9. Teaching-Learning Methods and evaluation system**

The teaching-learning approaches and strategies should be suitable and positive to the students. The teachers in schools are the ones that give an imperative part in supporting learning among the students. It is necessary for them to certify that the teaching approaches used should evidence to be helpful to the students (Mertler, 2006).

For instance, if the students are able to learn better through dictation of notes, then teachers should provide notes. If the students are able to learn better through oral explanation, then they should encourage oral description and so forth. Within home, if students are taking set apart trainings of certain academic subjects such as, mathematics or science, or their families teach them, then too, it is important for the parents and teachers to make sure that successful teaching learning approaches are implemented, which may inspire learning among the students and help them know better. The teachers are required to be sociable and specialized in their conduct. They are the ones, whom students style, in situation they have any problems and difficulties. When the teachers are friendly and plentiful, then the students feel happy in not only approaching them, but also in clarifying their hesitations. The professionalism and sociable attitude on the part of the teachers is of maximum importance in manipulating the academic performance of the students in a positive way. On the other hand, at home, family or teachers are the ones, who direct their studies; hence, it is essential for them to be professional in their conduct. Teaching should be applied in a peaceful and enjoyable way. Any kind of severe approach should be avoided, as it may demoralize the students. A good match between students' learning preferences and instructor's teaching style has been demonstrated to have positive effect on student's performance (Boyd *et al.*, 2008).

The evaluation systems are observed as critical sources that are used to progress the academic achievement of the students. When instructors have trained a certain idea to the learners, then they are regularly not alert that all the learners have understood the ideas or not. For this purpose, it is vital to place into practice, good evaluation systems. Assessment of the performance and learning abilities of the students takes place through organization of competitions, quizzes and giving them class and homework projects. The rating systems should be reasonable and fair. It is important for the instructors to implement their assessment systems on the base of the performance of the learners. They should reflect all the students similarly and not distinguish among them on the basis of influences,

such as, gender, religion, culture, standing, race or socio-economic background. When students score well, then teachers and learners come to know that they have understood the ideas. On the other hand, when they do not mark well, this specifies that they lack in their understanding. The performance of the students also indicates the teaching-learning processes and instructional tactics applied by the instructors. Bangbade (2004) found that out that teachers “attribute have significant relationship with students” academic performance.

#### **2.1.10. Parental and Associated Factors relating to Academic Achievement**

In encouraging the academic achievement of the individuals, family and home environmental influences contribute a main part. There are positive and negative aspects related with the academic performance of the students. These have been detailed as follows:

##### **2.1.10.1. Positive Factors**

###### **2.1.10.1.1 Encouraging Attitude of Family Members**

In order to attain the academic goals, support and reinforcement from the family members is considered to be of utmost significance. When family are positive towards their children and make facility of sources for them to gain education, then children do become inspired to learn. Parents and relatives within the family are the ones that reduce avital contribution towards achievement of academic goals (Abbasi and Mir, 2012). When family is unaware concerning some evidence, then older relatives mainly guide their younger relatives. Older relatives in some cases also provide instruction to their younger relatives. Inspiring attitude of the parents primarily shows as a source of inspiration and motivation.

###### **2.1.10.1.2. Provision of Resources**

The provision of resources include, providing the children with the basic materials, infrastructure, facilities and other sources that are used to encourage learning. In order to accomplish the academic goals, there are several resources that the individuals want, these comprise, technology, reading materials, stationary items, and even private teachings at home, in case they find some subject areas which are difficult and need support. The provisions of materials mainly depend upon the economic position of the family. When they are economically strong, they are able to gain all the wanted materials. On the other hand, families are in the right placeto, marginalized and socio-economically backward sections of the people are unable to provide the materials and students need to be influenced by other means to complete their activities (Abbasi and Mir, 2012).

###### **2.1.10.1.3. Education of family**

The educational levels of the parents are considered as one of the central parts that are used to improve the academic performance of their children. When family are well educated, or they are professionals, they make facility of good education to their children, send them to supposed school and also provide them with all the required materials and incomes that are used to encourage their learning. Where as when family have low levels of literacy or are not educated, and then too in the present reality, they inspire their children towards gaining of education. As with suitable education, they would be able to improve their job chances (Zhan, 2006).

### 2.1.10.2. Negative Factors

In the present existence, particularly in rural areas, there are individuals, who have the perspectives that education is inevitable for boys and girls are inevitable to learn the hometasks. They are of the views that when boys will acquire educated, they would be able to acquire occupation and improve the safety of their parents (Abbasi and Mir,2012).On the other hand, girls have to eventually get married later, it is vital for them to get teaching concerning the achievement of hometasks. These mainly contain, provision of meals, housework, washing, fetching water, and taking care of children. These factors weaken girls from acquisition of education and their academic performance suffers a delay, even when they are joined in school.

### Conclusion

As it has been understood that education is vital for leading to the whole progress of the individuals, societies and nation. In order to attain educational qualifications and to improve one's skills and abilities, it is vital to do well academically and obtain good grades. There are number of factors within school as well as outside school that affects the academic performance of the students. Within school, the factors mainly include professionalism, skills and abilities on the part of the teachers, provision of library facilities, laboratory, appropriate teaching-learning processes and instructional strategies, effective communication between the individuals, formation of good terms and conditions, usage of technology and evaluation methods. The class and homework assignments and tests are regarded as aspects that determine the understanding of the students as well as utilization of teaching methods by the teachers.

The other factors that influence the academic performance of the students are home environment, financial position of their families, conditions of poverty, provision of instructions and support at home, counseling and guidance, occurrence of conflicts and differences, employment chances, household tasks, desires and wants of other family members and immoral acts. The environmental conditions and financial position of the families have been favorable as well as unfavorable towards the academic results of the students. Finally, it can be stated that in order to achieve good academic outcomes, it is essential for the students to be devoted and honest towards their educations, environmental conditions should be peaceful and sociable, and teachers should be friendly in attitude and implement teaching-learning processes and instructional approaches in a valuable manner.

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