A PROBE INTO THE PSYCHOLOGICAL VARIABLES OF MALE AND FEMALE DHAKIS

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Abstract: The study was conducted on 60 male and 60 female dhakis across different districts of West Bengal to compare the male and female "Dhakis" (drummers) on psychological variables namely Perseverance, Job Involvement, Occupational Self-Efficacy, Life Satisfaction and Motivation (Extrinsic and Intrinsic). The method of sampling was purposive sampling. For the purpose of data collection, five standardized scales were used, namely: Perseverance: Value Preference Survey and General Belief Inventory (Udai Pareek, 1997), The Job Involvement Scale (Kanungo, 1982), Occupational Self-Efficacy Scale (Sanjyot Pethe, Sushama Chaudhuri, Upinder Dhar, 1999), Life Satisfaction Scale (Dr. Promila Singh, George Joseph, 1971) and Extrinsic and Intrinsic Motivation: what do you look for in a job (Udai Pareek, 1997) were used. t-test of independent sample with equal size was computed to test the mean difference, if any, between the two groups vi.the male and female Dhakis. They were found to be significantly different in the mean values with respect to the variable Perseverance, Life Satisfaction and Motivation. No significant mean difference was found in case of Job Involvement and Occupational Self Efficacy between the male and female Dhakis considered in the present study. The result of Pearson product moment correlation revealed that all the variables were positively correlated with each other in case of male dhakis and female dhakis.

Keywords: Perseverance, Job Involvement, Occupational Self-Efficacy, Intrinsic and Extrinsic Motivation.

I. INTRODUCTION:

Dhak is an integral part of any worship. Its beat and the rhythm creates the ambience for any Bengali puja festival. The "Dhakis", create the mood for the various moments of the puja by playing the dhak with rhythm and varying speed. Dhakis are traditional drummers who play the dhak (drum) during Hindu festivals, primarily in Bengal.

Many articles have thrown light on the present condition of dhakis in past two to three years and most of them have focused on the plight associated with the profession. Moreover, these articles have also referred to this profession as a dying one. Interview with many dhakis reveal their frustrations and agonies. The importance of dhakis has diminished because of some people's preference for electronic music and bands. Some of the younger Dhakis even took to work as shoe shine boys, but the older generation still has pride in being artists. "They look down upon such misadventures of the younger generation, but do not have an alternative before themselves". (PTI, Published in The Hindu, Businessline, October, 2014).

It has been found that in past years that though the profession of 'Dhaki' has faced a lot of trouble,many of them would not give up and succumb to the situation rather they chose to fight back. And as a result, this profession is getting back its previous glory. And this is also true that younger dhakis are not at all moving away from this profession, rather they are taking the responsibility to save the profession from becoming obsolete. Females are also part of this process. As dhaki Gokul Chandra Das said "I was in America, I visited a shop of musical instrument, where I saw a lady, who was demonstrating the use of the instruments. Then the idea of female dhakis came into my mind. I thought if they can do, why not my Indian ladies? Then I came back and started the tuition classes for the women- to teach them how to play dhak".

Women are entering into this male dominated profession and successfully performing in various occasions which in turn has contributed in carrying the profession forward across generations but not without obstacle. In other

countries like America, Africa, women play drums without facing any problem. But in India female dhakis face lot of problems at when they choose to take up this profession. Most of it is imbibed in the stereotypical attitudes of people who not only raise questions but also refrain from hiring women in ceremonies . They often believe that the sanctity and piousness of a Puja would be hampered if women are allowed to play Dhak-the Holy instrument in front of the deity. The question that comes to the mind of a behavioural scientist is whether males and females differ significantly with respect to their psychological make up and are the men endowed with any special psychological trait that determine successes in the profession?

To answer the above mentioned questions, the present study intended to explore this profession from a psychological perspective. This study aimed to unravel the influence of the variables, namely, Perseverance, Job Involvement, Occupational Self-Efficacy, Life Satisfaction, Extrinsic and Intrinsic Motivation on the different groups of drummers-males and females. Additionally, emphasis also has been laid upon comparing male and female groups with respet to these psychological variables. An interrelationship among the variables had also been explored that further explain the significance of the variables that are associated with the profession and are the determinants of success in it.

Perseverance: The Oxford English Dictionary defines persistence as a "firm or obstinate continuance in a course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition" and perseverance as a "steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success." Perseverance is the tendency to persist with the effort in achieving a goal inspite of various difficulties. Perseverance may be reflected in several ways at work: in a person's obsession with a goal, his not giving up the goal despite various problems, the large amount of time spent in the effort to reach the goal, hard work, focusing attention on the task until it is completed and so on. It has been reported by Rao and Moulik (1979) that one significant factor in a success of a job is perseverance.

Job Involvement: According to Paullay, Alliger and Stone-Romero (1994) job involvement is "The degree to which one is cognitively preoccupied with, engaged in, and concerned with one's present job". Results revealed that dimensions of compassion, passion, modesty, honesty, bravery, and wisdom, (exactly in this sequence) had the most influence on employee's job involvement (Ghassemi et. al, 2015).

Occupational Self-Efficacy: Bandura (1977) defines self-efficacy as "belief in one's ability to perform a task or more specifically to execute a specified behavior successfully". Occupational self-efficacy builds on this definition but is narrower in focus. In contrast to task-specific self-efficacy, however, it "is broader in scope, so that a wider range of people working in different professions can be compared". Thus, occupational self-efficacy can be used to assess "self-efficacy over different jobs, organizations, levels etc." (Schyns & von Collani, 2002).

Life satisfaction: "Bottom-up" approaches to understanding life satisfaction (Headey, Veenhoven & Wearing, 1991) suggest that impressions concerning subordinate "domains of life" such as work, leisure, family and community form the basis for overall life satisfaction judgments (Sirgy, Efraty, Siegel and Lee, 2001). Life satisfaction intends to measure the level of satisfaction in one's life who is involved in any profession and that includes all round activities of the person (Singh, 1971).

Motivation: Halepota (2005) defines motivation as "a person's active participation and commitment to achieve the prescribed results." Intrinsic motivation is the eagerness and interest to do and take part in some certain activities because an individual feels that they are attractive and pleasant. Extrinsic motivation, on the other hand, is the propensity to take part in activities because of the reasons which do not link to the activity. These reasons can be the anticipation of reward or punishment.

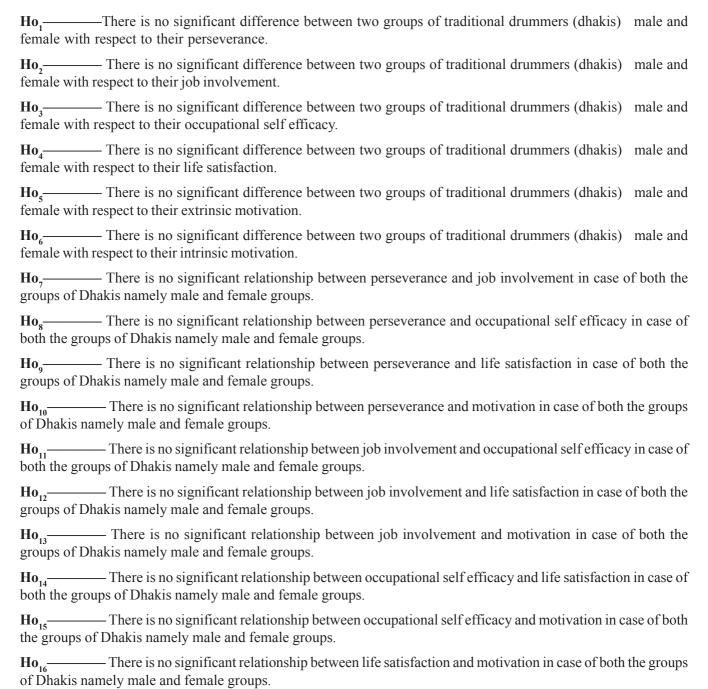
II. OBJECTIVES:

The study aims to unravel:-

- The psychological factors that influence the drummers to take up the profession and pursue it.
- Perseverance, Job Involvement, Occupational Self Efficacy, Life Satisfaction, Intrinsic and Extrinsic Motivation in case of male dhakis and female dhakis, age ranging from 25 to 45 years.

- Difference, if any, in the aforesaid psychological variables with respect to sex.
- Interpersonal relationship, if any, among the variables considered in the study.

III. HYPOTHESES:



IV. SAMPLE:

Sample size: The sample comprised of 60 male dhakis and 60 female dhakis, age ranging from 25 to 45 years. Therefore the total sample size considered in the study was 120.

Sampling: The method of sampling used for the present research was purposive sampling. The sample, representative of the population consisted of two groups-viz. male group and female group. Both the groups were matched in terms of age, marital status, number of dependents and income per month.

Inclusion criteria: The sample was selected by the method of purposive sampling and collected from the different district of West Bengal.

The inclusion criteria of the sample are as follows:

- Only professional dhakis were considered, who perform regularly.
- Duration in the present profession-minimum 1 year.
- Age: 25 years to 45 years.
- Sex: Both male and female dhakis were taken into account.
- Educational qualification: from class 8 to graduation.
- Income per month: 3000.
- Marital status: Married.
- Number of family members: minimum 3 dependents.

V. TOOLS USED:

The following tools were used for the collection of data in the present study-

- **General information Schedule**-developed by the researcher.
- Perseverance: Value Preference Survey and General Beliefs Inventory- Udai Pareek (1997)
- Intrinsic and Extrinsic motivation: What Do You Look for in a Job?- Udai Pareek (1997)
- **Job Involvement Questionnaire** Kanungo (1982)
- Occupational Self Efficacy Scale- Sanjyot Pethe, Sushama Chaudhuri, Upinder Dhar (1999)
- Life Satisfaction Scale- Dr. (Mrs.) Promila Singh, George Joseph (1971)

VI. DATA ANALYSIS TECHNIQUE:

The collected data from two different group of Dhakis namely males and females were systematically arranged and properly tabulated with respect to each of the psychological variables considered in the present study. The data were analyzed statistically and suitable statistical techniques were used in line with the hypotheses as stated earlier. At first, means and standard deviations for the groups with respect to each of the variable were calculated. Then t test for independent sample with equal size was computed to test the mean difference, if any, between the two groups of Dhakis viz. males and females across for each of the variables. Pearson Product Moment Correlation was computed to examine whether each of the variables was correlated with every other variable considered in the study.

Statistical methods for Data Analysis: the result obtained from the analysis of data is presented in the following tables.

VII. RESULTS:

| Variable | Group | Mean | SD |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Perseverance | Female | 74.225 | 15.918 |
| | Male | 64.025 | 17.237 |
| Job involvement | Female | 43.8 | 3.763 |
| | Male | 42.025 | 4.339 |
| Occupational self efficacy | Female | 79.35 | 6.499 |
| | Male | 76.25 | 10.314 |
| Life satisfaction | Female | 148.35 | 12.005 |
| | Male | 139.5 | 16.886 |
| Motivation (extrinsic) | Female | 55 | 9.543 |
| | Male | 44.65 | 10.319 |
| Motivation (intrinsic) | Female | 36.575 | 9.543 |
| | Male | 60.35 | 10.319 |

Table-2: Comparison (t) between the male and female traditional drummers (25-45 years) with respect to the variables considered in the study

| Variables | t |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Perseverance | 3.02** |
| Job involvement | 1.96 |
| Occupational self efficacy | 1.61 |
| Life satisfaction | 2.70** |
| Motivation (extrinsic) | 4.72** |

It is revealed from the t values of table 2 that there exists significant difference at 0.01 level between male and female dhakis with respect to the variables (Perseverance, life satisfaction, extrinsic motivation). On the other hand, there is no significant difference with respect to job involvement and occupational self-efficacy between the two groups, namely male and female traditional drummer group.

Table-3: Relationship among the different variables considered in the study for the two groups of traditional drummers- males & females (25-45 years)

| Variable | Group | Correlational value |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| Perseverance and Job involvement | Female | 0.427** |
| | Male | 0.730** |
| Perseverance and Occupational self | Female | 0.585** |
| efficacy | Male | 0.418** |
| Perseverance and Life satisfaction | Female | 0.513** |
| | Male | 0.570** |
| Perseverance and Motivation | Female | 0.348* |
| • | Male | 0.632** |
| Job involvement and Occupational | Female | 0.754** |
| self efficacy | Male | 0.497** |
| Job involvement and Life | Female | 0.695** |
| satisfaction | Male | 0.500** |
| Job involvement and Motivation | Female | 0.530** |
| | Male | 0.412* |
| Occupational self efficacy and Life | Female | 0.830** |
| satisfaction | Male | 0.425** |
| Occupational self efficacy and | Female | 0.565** |
| Motivation | Male | 0.602** |

^{*}p<0.05, **p<0.01

The result show that, in case of female group the variable perseverance is correlated with job involvement, occupational self-efficacy, life satisfaction at 0.01 level, and with motivation at 0.05 level. Job involvement is correlated with occupational self-efficacy, life satisfaction and motivation at 0.01 level. Occupational self-efficacy is correlated with life satisfaction and with motivation at 0.01 level. Life satisfaction is also correlated with motivation at 0.01 level. In case of male group the variable perseverance is correlated with the other variables at 0.01 level. Job involvement is correlated with occupational self-efficacy and with life satisfaction at 0.01 level, but there is a significant correlation between job involvement and motivation at 0.05 level. Occupational self-efficacy is correlated with life satisfaction and with motivation at 0.01 level. Life satisfaction is also correlated with motivation at 0.01 level.

Thus on the basis of the results it can be put forward that-

- Significant difference has been found between the male and female drummer groups (dhakis) with respect to the variables perseverance, life satisfaction, extrinsic and intrinsic motivation.
- No significant difference has been found between the male and female drummer groups (25-45 years) with respect to the variables job involvement and occupational self efficacy, in case of both.
- · Significant relation has been found among all the variables in case of both the male and female group of drummers.

Therefore, $\mathbf{Ho_1}$, $\mathbf{Ho_4}$, $\mathbf{Ho_5}$, $\mathbf{Ho_6}$ have been rejected at 0.01 level and $\mathbf{Ho_2}$ and $\mathbf{Ho_3}$ have been accepted as revealed by the t test result. The result of Product moment correlation revealed that $\mathbf{Ho_7}$, $\mathbf{Ho_8}$, $\mathbf{Ho_9}$, $\mathbf{Ho_{11}}$, $\mathbf{Ho_{12}}$, $\mathbf{Ho_{14}}$, $\mathbf{Ho_{15}}$, $\mathbf{Ho_{16}}$ have been rejected at 0.01 level. $\mathbf{Ho_{10}}$ has been partially accepted at 0.05 level as a significant difference has not been found between the variables in case of female dhakis. $\mathbf{Ho_{13}}$ has been partially accepted at 0.05 level as a significant difference has not been found between the variables incase of male who have been compared with their female counterparts.

VII. DISCUSSION:

Perseverance: From the mean values with respect to perseverance it has been found that the female drummers displayed a high perseverance level in their job as compared to their male counterparts. It suggests that female drummers have a higher tendency to persist with the effort in achieving a goal related to their work in spite of various difficulties that they face. Being almost new comers to this male dominated profession they are often underrated and unwelcome. This perhaps have made them more persistent in their effort to carry on with this profession. The findings of the current study have been corroborated by the findings of the study conducted by Shoham, Florenthal, Rose, and Kropp in 1998 that suggest that five values differ significantly in importance between males and females: Excitement, warm relationships with others, being well respected, security, and self-respect.

Job Involvement: The finding indicates that the mean value with respect to job involvement is slightly higher incase female drummers than their male counterparts. Though, it has been found that, in case of job involvement, there is no significant mean difference between the female drummer group and male drummer group, the high mean value of female drummer group indicates that female drummers have the higher tendency to get involved in their job, they feel that their work is a part of their life, their interest toward their work is higher than male drummers and as well as they spent most of their time in doing their work. Allport conceptualized job involvement as; the degree to which an employee is participating in his job and meeting such needs as prestige, self-respect, autonomy, and self- regard (Allport, 1943). The higher mean score for females, might be because of the fact that the females are relatively new comers to this profession, they are beginners as compared to the male group, thus they derive self respect and higher self worth which in turn make them feel more attached to their work. Thus perhaps they have taken up this job as a challenge. Mowday et al. (1979) reported four studies where women are more attitudinally committed and job involved.

Occupational Self-Efficacy: In the present study, finding indicates that the mean value of female drummers with respect to occupational self efficacy is slightly higher than the mean value of the male drummers. However, there has been no significant mean difference between the female drummer group and male drummer group. But the higher mean value in case of the female drummer group indicates that female drummers possess relatively higher

occupational self efficacy as compared to their male counterparts. It suggests that females are more aware of their skills and they utilize their skills in their profession. As the female group is new to this profession they are still in the stage of exploring their skills that help them to improve their work and they are in a stage where they are learning what to do with their skills in their professional field. Most of the studies suggest that the level of self efficacy is lower in case of female group. Overall empirical evidence suggests that women are likely to have lower expectations than men for success in a wide range of occupations (Eccles, 1995). Not surprisingly, significantly lower levels of self-efficacy among women have been found in careers historically perceived as "nontraditional" for women (Bandura et al., 2001; Betz & Hackett, 1981). Bandura suggests that these perceived inefficacies, as well as other sociostructural encumbrances, weigh more heavily with girls than does background preparation when considering careers (Bandura et al., 2001). However, the present study challenges this gender stereotypical perspective.

Life satisfaction: The result indicates that the mean value of female drummers incase of life satisfaction is higher than the mean value of the male drummers, and there is a significant mean difference between the female drummer group and male drummer group. It signifies that female group is more satisfied with their life as a whole than the male drummers. It might be due to the fact the females face less social pressure to earn for their family, so they have less expectation from their job .Males on the other hand

are expected to fulfill all the needs of their family. These facts may contribute towards more satisfaction than the male drummers. In evidence Attiyah & Nasser (2013) in her study also found that females obtained a higher mean score than did their male counterparts with respect to ife satisfaction.

Motivation: The mean value of female drummers incase of extrinsic motivation is higher than the mean value of the male drummers. However the female Dhakis have been found to have a lower mean value in case of intrinsic motivation as compared to their male counterparts. The t value suggests that there is a significant mean difference between the two groups of drummers with respect to the two factors of motivation. In case of females extrinsic factors such as salary, equitable pay, fringe benefits help them to fulfill their daily basic need. Women in this particular study perhaps are the lot who represent the societal expectations that when women step outside the house it is primarily to earn. Therefore, coming from a relatively poor background they have learnt to attach more importance to the basic facilities of life. Male group of dhakis on the other hand feel more motivated when they get accomplishment for their work and feel more focused when they get respect from others. Research by Nair & Manimala(2011) suggest that the gender composition in terms of women's participation in job still has to rise to a substantial extent. A study was conducted by Dr. Alduaij(2013), that conclude that Kuwaiti males seek to self-actualization out of career superiority, but Kuwaiti females seek self- actualization from their family, beauty, fashions, and career superiority.

In case of correlation it has been found that all the variables are correlated with each other. In support of this finding, a study conducted by Chelliah & Vinoth(2015) reveal the relationship among organizational commitment Job satisfaction, Job involvement, and perceived organizational support. The findings of the present study confirms that job satisfaction, job involvement, and perceived organizational support influencing organizational commitment of employees by affective, continuance and normative type commitment are significantly positive and accepted.

Research suggests that people with high life satisfaction levels exhibit the ability to motivate themselves when they encounter challenges, do not allow adversity and negative developments in preventing them from thinking, are always assisting others, and are seldom pessimistic (Palmer, Donaldson, & Stough, 2002).

Findings also suggest that female dhakis are mostly motivated by the extrinsic factors. On the other hand the male group of dhakis perceive the job as interesting, attractive and worthwhile, which make them feel persistent with their job in any situation. They put their hard work, spent time to get respect and recognition from the others. They feel more motivated when they get acknowledgement for their work and feel more focused when they get respect from others. Hackman and Lawler (1971) also mentioned that when individuals devoted themselves in their work, their motivation increased, thereby positively affecting their job performance. Hackman and Lawler's (1971) findings also suggest that intrinsic work values were correlated to job involvement.

The study reveals that the overall job self-efficacy and variables in job self-efficacy, and overall job involvement and variables in job involvement are significantly correlated with one another, and they are

mutually affected. This indicates that self job efficacy and job involvement are highly correlated with each other (Yang, Kao, Huang; 2006). This result is consistent with the study done by Yakin, Erdil(2012), which implies that work engagement have been found to be related to self-confidence and focused effort.

Results indicate that both the drummer groups hold an optimistic view toward their job and show engagement with their work. As a result most of the personal goals are related to their work. This result is highly supported by the findings of Judge (1992), in which he found that involvement and commitment towards the job and job satisfaction and life satisfaction were reciprocally and positively correlated.

Findings indicate that they feel that the work they are doing is challenging and worthwhile thus their interest is centered on their job and their personal goals are related to their job most of the time. They perform their job for fulfilling their basic needs first, and are involved with their job. Intrigued by the charm of it and being motivated by the extrinsic factors as well they have shown higher job involvement. Previous research on this indicates that there are significant inter correlations among the majority of dimensions and sub-dimensions of employee motivation and job involvement (Govender and Parumasur, 2010).

The female group feels more satisfied because they perceive themselves as independent earning members of her family. Coming into the men's world where playing dhak is a male dominated profession and getting success and respect from the society, they are satisfied with their lives, strive more and more to gain skill in their work. Male drummers are able to show their skills through their work and which help them to get respect in return, which help them to hold an optimistic view toward their life. Evidence suggests that self efficacy and psychological well-being affect each other in a positive manner (Salimirad & Srimathi, 2016). In another study by Paggi et. al,(2015) it is found that occupational self efficacy is positively correlated with better confidence and better knowledge about work, which makes the worker more satisfied with their life.

Both the groups have been found to exhibit occupational self efficacy with the female dhakis having a higher mean value Evidence suggests that the individuals who have a high self efficacy are more likely to set themselves challenging goals which are most often achieved (Bandura & Locke, 2003; Stajkovic, 2006). The study by Paggi et. al, (2015) reveal that occupational self efficacy is positively correlated with intrinsic motivation.

Motivation thus leads to life satisfaction and the more they are satisfied with their lives the more motivated they become to aspire for the fulfillment of the goals that contribute towards life satisfaction.

VIII. IMPLICATION:

- Women are not only entering this male dominated profession, rather they are psychologically more potent for pursuing this profession. This finding has challenged a stereotypical belief that women are not potent for this job due to their physical weakness.
- All psychological factors that were considered to be of utmost value for this particular profession namely 'Dhaki' were found to be higher in females as compared to their male counterparts thereby signifying that physical strength is not the sole determinant of success.
- The study has been conducted in different districts of West Bengal thereby unraveling many aspects that are the determinants of success in this profession.

IX. CONCLUSION:

The present study unravels the fact that the male and female dhakis differ significantly in several psychological variables namely perseverance, life satisfaction, intrinsic and extrinsic motivation. In comparison to the male dhakis, female dhakis are found to be more persistent and involved with their job and they are also found to be more satisfied with their lives. However, they are mostly driven by the extrinsic motivators.

Therefore it might be said that, female dhakis have exhibited relatively more potential in this profession. They have been found to successfully break the stereotypical belief that the profession 'Dhak' is only for male individuals-"A Man's Job".

Therefore, taking into consideration the present study, it may be remarked that, women are not only entering this profession they are more potent than the male dhakis as far as their psychological factors are concerned that are the parameters of success in a job. This finding helps to open a new avenue for the females. And this study also revealed that the profession 'Dhaki' which was said to be a dying profession is not a dying profession at all. It is the profession which is turning toward a new direction and opening a new avenue and ushering of a new era for females and the younger generation.

Summary: Overall the present study has attempted to understand the internal psychological factors that may contribute to success in one's profession. The current findings add substantially to our understanding of the psychological variables in professional dhakis (drummers) across sex. This study helps to encourage further research towards gaining deeper insight into the psychic determinants pertaining to people pursuing this profession. Further research in this direction can provide a holistic understanding of the correlates that lead towards success of professionals both male and females.

Mean and SD of the male and female group of traditional drummers with respect to the variables considered in the study.

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