



ATTITUDE OF THE MANGALORIAN STUDENTS ON THE NORTH-EAST STUDENTS IN MANGALORE

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Abstract:

The North East student who seek better education finds Mangalore as the attractive destination. Mangalore city offers educational facilities at a relatively affordable price and it is also a preferred destination for students whose goal is to migrate to bigger cities in mainland India for higher further studies, besides being an available and a suitable destination. In 2014, Nido Taniam Death Incident case attracted a lot of media attention. In October 2014 two separate incidents when a student was beaten by 3 men in Bangalore for not speaking Kannada and 7 men beaten a student in Gurgaon. Stratified Random sampling with 50 local respondents from surrounding places, residing in the hostels were interviewed. i.e. 25 respondents each from male and female students, 18 from Arts, 17 from the Commerce and 15 from Science streams. Study revealed that majority of the North East students are adapting well with the local culture and that locals are also playing their part in building a congenial environment for peaceful co-existence. The findings and suggestion of this study is helpful to the North-east students to adapt better to the new environment and the local resident to have a positive outlook towards them.

Index Terms: Academic Performance, Adaptability, Food Habits, Life Styles & Local Culture

Introduction:

Mangalore city offers educational facilities at a relatively affordable price and it is also a preferred destination for students whose goal is to migrate to bigger cities in mainland India for higher further studies, besides being an available and a suitable destination. Migration of college students in North East India takes place on account of plethora reasons, unlike mainland India, where inter-state migration college students primarily take place because of lack of educational infrastructure in North East India, beside this reason, migration on college students to Mangalore also occur because of spiralling violence in many adjoining states which have been ravaged by decade of insurgency and political turmoil, moreover proximity to many neighbouring states and its reputation as an educational hub in the region also attracts college migrant. The other attraction of Mangalore is the pressure of friends, relative's etc, in-fact the availability of Mangalore as a possible place to study to a certain extend also depend upon living someone already living there who could serve as a sponsor, thus, a great majority of the movement can be described as educational hunger strikes or chain migration.

The North East India:

Northeast India is the eastern-most region of India connected to East India via a narrow corridor squeezed between Nepal and Bangladesh. It comprises the contiguous Seven Sister States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura) plus the Himalayan state of Sikkim. These states are grouped under the MDONER ministry of the Government of India. Except for the Goalpara region of Assam, the rest were late entrants to the British India, the Brahmaputra valley area of Assam became a part of British India in 1824, and the

hill regions were incorporated even later. Sikkim was annexed to the Indian union through a referendum in 1975 and was recognized as part of Northeast India in the 1990s.

The states are officially recognized under the North Eastern Council (NEC), constituted in 1971 as the acting agency for the development of the eight states. The North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFi) was incorporated on 9 August 1995 and the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) was set up in September 2001.

According to 2001 census, the total literacy rate of the population in the region at 68.5 per cent, with female literacy rate at 61.5 percent, is higher than the country's average of 64.8 per cent and 53.7 per cent respectively. There are variations in the literacy rate among different states with Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya below the national average. While, Mizoram and Tripura tops the list not only in the following region but in the entire nation.

Meaning of Attitude:

The term "attitude" is a transliteration of the term "aptitude" which had been used exclusively by painters and sculptors. Aptitude is derived from the Latin "aptitude" which in turn comes from "aptus", meaning suited, fitted. As soon as "aptitude" took the form of "attitude", its use became a general one.

Definition of Attitude:

According to *Wolfe*, "an attitude is the type of sentiment which the individual manifests upon the recurrence of a given situation. It is a behaviour pattern, with reference especially to the 'feeling' side of response." In the terminology of Bernard, "attitudes are for the most part acquired behaviour patterns having been built up out of our experiences in characteristic situations."

Prejudices and Racism against North-East Indians:

In recent years there have been many reports of discrimination against North-eastern Indians. In 2007 the *North East Support Centre & Helpline (NESC&H)* was started as a separate wing of All India Christian Council, with the goal of increasing awareness of prejudice and attacks against people from North-East India. Many people from Northeast face difficulty and discrimination for accommodation. Many north-easterners are called "*chinky*" by people in New Delhi, in reference to the appearance of their eyes, though it may not widely be applicable to Assam because of mixed demographics where an equally significant number of the population are "Indo-Aryan" and thus lack Mongoloid phenotypes. A spokesman for the NESC&H, said that abuse and harassment of north-easterners had become more.

In 2012, in an attempt to prevent racial discrimination against people from the North East, Indian government has asked all the states and union territories to book anyone who commits an act of atrocity against people from the region under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. A person found guilty under this act, can be jailed for 5 years.

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About St Aloysius College (Autonomous) Mangalore:

It was founded in 1880, St Aloysius College (SAC) is a Christian Minority Institution managed by Mangalore Jesuit Education Society (MJES). It is the oldest college in this region and has always strived to form individuals who are academically competent, morally strong, artistically accomplished, physically fit, socially concerned

and personally balanced. Hence each student is encouraged to take part in the co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. St Aloysius College is a Jesuit College in Mangalore, Karnataka, India. It is situated on a 37 acre (150,000m²) campus atop Light House Hill, overlooking the Arabian sea. *St Aloysius Institute of Management & Information Technology (AIMIT)* is the NEW CAMPUS for MBA and IT programmes offered by St Aloysius College (Autonomous), Mangalore. At AIMIT Campus, Beeri, Mangalore independent campus for Management and IT Institute, is located.

Research Methodology: Objectives of the Study:

- ✓ To study the respondents attitude towards the life styles and food habit of the students from the North East.
- ✓ To assess opinion on how well the North East students assimilate to the local culture.
- ✓ To learn the attitude on the academic performance of the North East students.
- ✓ To collect suggestions on better adaptability by the North East students with the local culture.

Universe:

The universe chosen for the study was the degree students of St. Aloysius College (Autonomous) Mangalore during the academic year 2014-15.

Sampling Procedure:

From the universe, Stratified Random Sampling method was used for choosing the sample. Where 25 respondents from male and 25 respondents from female, 18 respondents from Arts stream, 17 respondents from the Commerce stream, 15 respondents from Science stream was chosen as the sample for the study.

Limitation of the Study:

- ✓ The study is limited to the degree students of St Aloysius College and to the distant local students staying in College hostels only.
- ✓ Time is the factor which was limited, because the 50 respondents' availability and the time to answer the questions was hindrance.
- ✓ The female respondents were interviewed through female students, who may not be through with the concept and reasoning of the study.

Analysis and Interpretation:

Personal Profile of the Respondents:

Variables	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Gender	Male	25	50%
	Female	25	50%
	Total	50	100%
Class	1 st year	12	24%
	2 nd year	28	56%
	3 rd year	10	20%
	Total	50	100%
Combination	Science	15	30%
	Commerce	17	34%
	Arts	18	36%
	Total	50	100%

Table: 01

Gender Wise Opinion on the Dress Code of the North-East Students:

Variables	Male	Female
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Modest	5(20%)	6(24%)
Well dressed	13(52%)	17(68%)
Average	7(28%)	2(8%)
Poorly dressed	-	-
Total	25(100%)	25(100%)

Table: 02

Many of male respondents i.e. 52% say that north east students are well dressed, and 68% of female respondents also have the same opinion. Thus, it is clear from the data, that the dressing of the female students from North East is even better compared to male.

Opinion Whether North East Students Show-Off in Public:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	5	10%
To some extent	29	58%
Rarely	13	26%
Not at all	3	6%

Table: 03

Table: 03 indicate the attitude of Local students regarding North East students showing off in the public. It indicates that majority do show off in the public to some extent, although it may not be a threat to the others. Only few are or the opinion that North East students do not show off in the public.

Opinion on Food Habits of the North East Students:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Healthy	24	48%
Unhealthy	5	10%
Hygienic	16	32%
Unhygienic	5	10%

Table: 04

The habit of a person can be healthy or unhealthy. It is nice to know that the attitude of majority of Locals regarding food habit of North East students is good. They opine of good food habits and some are maintaining a good and clean hygienic of food intake.

Gender Wise Attitude on North-East Students Complaining Against the Local Food:

Variables	Male	Female
Angry	-	1(4%)
Sad	14(56%)	9(36%)
Not concerned	11(44%)	15(60%)
Total	25(100%)	25(100%)

Table: 05

The above table represent the attitude of male and female regarding complaints against local food by the North East students. Majority of local male students feel sad with the compliant, whereas, some are not concern with it. While, a majority of female are not concerned of it, however some respondents feel sad and gloomy.

North East Students Socialising With the Local Culture Based on the Year of Study:

Variables	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year
Yes	5(42%)	17(60%)	5(50%)

To some extent	3(25%)	3(11%)	2(20%)
Rarely	3(25%)	8(29%)	3(30%)
Not at all	1(8%)	-	-
Total	12(100%)	28(100%)	10(100%)

Table: 06

It is necessary to socialise and adopt with the culture and the changes in order to cope with the situation. As the data indicate above, all three year students of the North East are socialising with the local culture. However, 1st year Local students attitude is that North East students are less socialising with the local culture, it may be true also as the fresher to the new environment that they are not able to cope at a fast track. It can also be because the Locals take more time to understand.

Negative Attribute towards the Local Culture by the North East Students:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	7	14%
No	43	86%

Table: 07

The above table shows the Local students attitude on the negative attribute of North East students towards the local culture. Giving negative remark towards other culture can develop hatred and conflict. The data indicate that majority of the students from North East do not show negative attribute towards the local culture. However 14% of Local students have negative attitude.

Eagerness to Learn Local Language Based on the Discipline of Study:

Variables	Science	Commerce	Arts
Very much	2(13%)	4(23%)	2(11%)
Fairly	1(7%)	1(6%)	6(33%)
Rarely	8(53%)	11(65%)	8(44%)
Not at all	4(27%)	1(6%)	2(11%)
Total	15(100%)	17(100%)	18(100%)

Table: 08

The above given table of comparison shown that majority of the commerce students from North East are rarely eager to learn the local language as compared to science and arts. Whereas majority of commerce of students are very much eager to learn as compare to science and arts.

Gender Wise Opinion on North-East Students Conflicting With the Rules and Regulation of the College:

Variables	Male	Female
Very much	3(12%)	-
Rarely	11(44%)	9(36%)
To some extent	6(24%)	5(20%)
Not at all	5(20%)	11(44%)
Total	25(100%)	25(100%)

Table: 09

It is clear that the male are more conflicting with the rules and regulation of the College. 12% male are of the opinion that students from North East are very much into conflict whereas. Beside 20% men are not at all into conflict and it is 44% among the female.

Adjustment by the North East Students with the Local Culture:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Very much	15	30%
Often	22	44%
Occasionally	13	26%
Not at all	0	0%

Table: 10

In order to live in the new environment it is necessary to adjust oneself to become the part of it. Study indicates that the Local students have majority opinion that North East students often adjust with local culture.

Attitude on North East Students Participating In the Local Festivals:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Happy	32	64%
Unhappy	0	0%
Appreciate	13	26%
Not concerned	5	10%

Table: 11

It is good to know that 60% of Local students feel happy when they North East students are participating in the local festivals. There is no one among the local students who are unhappy about it which is additionally good.

Attitude on Reluctance by the North East Students to Attend Local Festivals:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Angry	0	0%
Disappointment	14	28%
Empathy	17	34%
None of the above	19	38%

Table: 12

The study reveal that 28% of the respondents feel disappointed with the North East students when they are reluctant to attend, and 34% feel empathy and understand the situation and feeling of the North East students. Good that no one is angry and 38% are not bothered about it.

Adjustment toward the Local Culture by the North East Students Based On Discipline of Study:

Variables	Science	Commerce	Arts
Too slow	1(7%)	1(6%)	1(5%)
Slow	6(40%)	10(59%)	4(22%)
Average	7(47%)	5(29%)	8(44%)
Fast	1(7%)	1(6%)	5(28%)
Very fast	-	-	-
Total	15(100%)	17(100%)	18(100%)

Table: 13

It is clear that among three disciplines the majority of the adjustment level with the local culture is average which is acceptable. However, 28% of the arts students are faster in adjusting and commerce students have the more slow adjustment as compare to science and art.

Discipline Wise Opinion on Academic Performance of the North East Students:

Variables	Science	Commerce	Arts
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Excellence	3(20%)	1(6%)	3(17%)
Very good	1(7%)	6(35%)	2(11%)
Good	9(60%)	10(59%)	13(72%)
Poor	2(13%)	-	-
Very poor	-	-	-
Total	15(100%)	17(100%)	18(100%)

Table: 14

Table: 14 clearly indicate that majority of the student from science, commerce and arts disciplines are good in their academic performance. Whereas, few students from science discipline are poor in their studies. While, it is glad to know that no students from North East are very poor in their studies. Overall a majority from the arts discipline are good in the academic performance than the others.

Generosity in Sharing Study Materials:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Very much	13	26%
Always when asked	29	58%
Rarely	7	14%
Never	1	2%

Table: 15

It is the expression of love and concern towards others by willing to share of what he has. Table 14 shows that majority of the students are generous only when they asked for the materials to study. While some of the students are very much generous and willing to share without any hesitation. Only one Local student had negative attitude.

Discipline Wise Opinion on the Interaction with Others Students in Class:

Variables	Science	Commerce	Arts
Polite	4(27%)	11(65%)	14(78%)
Authoritative	3(20%)	-	1(5%)
Honest	8(53%)	6(35%)	3(17%)

Table: 16

Table: 16 indicate that majority i.e. 78% of respondents from the arts discipline opine that the interaction is polite. While some i.e. 20% from science discipline think they are authoritative. But 53% from the science stream opine that they are honest.

Gender Wise Opinion on Academic Leadership Initiations:

Variables	Male	Female
Highly appreciable	-	5(20%)
Appreciable	10(40%)	6(24%)
Good	14(56%)	9(36%)
Inefficient	-	4(16%)
Bad	1(4%)	1(4%)
Total	25(100%)	25(100%)

Table: 17

Majority of the male and female students are good in their leadership. Female students are highly appreciated for their good leadership initiatives. Only one male and one female had negative opinion.

Co-Operation with Co-Curricular Activities:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Very much	25	50%
To some extent	20	40%
Rarely	4	8%
Not at all	1	2%

Table: 18

Thus it is clear that majority of the Local students have positive attitude saying the North East students are very much co-operative in the curricular activities like sport, competition, various events and programs. While, some of the students are co-operative to some extent and another 8% are rarely co-operative.

Co-Operation with Non-Curricular Activities:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Very much	18	36%
Always when asked	12	24%
Rarely	17	34%
Never	3	6%

Table: 19

Non-curricular activities are those activities which are not the part of the college curricular, some of the activities are like celebrating the local festivals, organising programs, etc. Many Local students have positive attitude saying that North East students are co-operative and lot said that they are co-operative when asked for, only 6% had negative opinion.

Healthy Relationship with the Faculties:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	32	64%
Average	16	32%
No	2	4%

Table: 20

Maintaining a good and healthy relationship with the faculties indeed help the students to improve the overall development in the studies and also help to develop a sense of career consciousness. Majority of the Local students opine about healthy relationship by North East students with the faculties. Some hold average opinion and only 4% were unhappy about it.

Gender Wise Opinion on the Inclusion of North East Students for the Local Festival Celebrations:

Variables	Male	Female
Yes	8(32%)	12(48%)
Not required	5(20%)	6(24%)
To some extent	12(48%)	7(28%)
Total	25(100%)	25(100%)

Table: 21

In order to understand the attitude of the male and female respondents on the inclusion of the North East students in the local festivals, the above given table is being presented. It indicate that many i.e. 48% of the male respondents suggest that it is necessary to include North East students to some extent. Whereas, same amount of female respondents said that it is very essential to include them in the local festivals.

Need to Learn Local Language For Better Adoptability:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Definitely required	17	34%
To some extent	22	44%
Not required	7	14%
Don't know	4	8%

Table: 22

Learning is essential for adaptation and to acquire new knowledge. While, majority of the respondents suggested that it is necessary to learn local language to some extent. Some of the respondent also suggested that it is definitely required to learn it. Very few respondents are of the opinion that it is not necessary to learn local language.

Wearing Local Dress for Better Adoption by the Community:

Variables	Respondents	Percentage
Very much	5	10%
To some extent	18	36%
Not required	19	38%
Don't know	8	16%

Table: 23

As the culture differs from community to community and from locality to locality, the customs of dress worn by the local students will be different from the North East students. Thus, it is necessary to know the opinion of the respondents. 38% of the respondents suggested that it is not required to wear the local dress for better adaptation by the society. While 26% of the respondents also suggested that it is necessary to wear to some extent. However, a few (10%) respondents are of the opinion that it is very much required. The remaining 16% have no idea to give suggestions for better adaptation with local culture.

Gender Wise Opinion on the Provision of Separate Optional Food in the Hostel for the North East Students:

Variables	Male	Female
Yes	3(12%)	4(16%)
Once a week	6(24%)	4(16%)
No	6(24%)	6(24%)
As Management think	10(40%)	11(44%)
Total	25(100%)	25(100%)

Table: 24

Table: 24 shows that both majority of male and female suggested that the decision is better left to the Management to decide whether the optional should be provided or not. Some of the male respondents also suggested that it should be provide once a week. Nearly one fourth of male and female Local students don't want it so. This indicates that the respondents have no restriction on the matter of providing optional food in the hostel.

Major Findings:

Attitude on the Life Styles and Food Habit of the North East Students:

- ✓ The study found that 82% of the Local students have positive attitude regarding the dress code of North East students.

- ✓ High majority of Local students feel that North East student don't show-off in the public.
- ✓ It has been found that majority i.e. 80% of the Local students have good opinion on the food habit of the North East students.
- ✓ Over half of the respondents are not concerned about the complaint against the local food by the North East students.

Satisfaction on Adoption to Local Culture by the North East Students:

- ✓ More than two third Local students are satisfied by North East students socialising with the local culture.
- ✓ The study found that vast majority of North East students doesn't express negative remark on the local culture.
- ✓ Half of the Local students are not convinced that North East students are eager to learn the local language.
- ✓ It has been found that 40% of the North East students are fast in adjusting with the local culture.
- ✓ The study found that comparing to science and commerce students from North East, arts students are much faster in adjusting with the local culture
- ✓ Nearly 70% of the Local students are convinced that the North East students abide by the College rules.
- ✓ Majority of the Local students are convinced that the North East students adjust with the Local Culture.
- ✓ The Local students are happy to see North East students participate in Local festivals.
- ✓ Only over one third of the Local students empathise with North East students if they are reluctant to attend local festivals.

Academic Performance of the North East Students:

- ✓ Attitude of the Local Students regarding the academic performance of North East students is good.
- ✓ The study found that 72% of the arts students from North East are good in academic performance as compared to science and arts students.
- ✓ 58% of the students Local students feel that North East students are generous in sharing studies materials whenever asked.
- ✓ Most of the Local students are happy about the leadership initiatives by North East students on academic activities.
- ✓ Majority of the Local students have positive attitude on the North East students as they are very much co-operative in the curricular activities.
- ✓ North East students are co-operative and lot said that they are co-operative in Non Curricular activities when asked for.
- ✓ The Local students are quite happy with the healthy relationship maintained by the North East students.

Opinion and Suggestions for Better Adaptability by the North East Students with the Local Culture:

- ✓ Many of the male respondents suggest that it is necessary to include North East students to some extent. Many of female respondents suggested the North East students should be included.
- ✓ Majority of the respondents suggested that it is necessary to learn local language to some extent for better adaptation. Very few respondents are of the opinion that it is not necessary to learn local language.

- ✓ The current study reveals that 38% of the respondents are of the opinion that it is not necessary to wear the local dress worn by the local residents.
- ✓ The study shows that 42% of the respondents have suggested that provision of optional food for the North East students in the hostel is left to the Management.

Suggestions:

India is a country of unity in diversity which is one of the unique features of the Indian society. These diversities give a colourful image in the society when all the diversified culture, religion etc come together as one. To unit these diversities it is necessary to adapt and adjust with various cultures. The students from North East India have been migrating to Northern and Southern part of India in search for better educational quality. At time conflict arises due to cultural differences. Therefore, following are the suggestions to the North East students for better adaptation with the local culture.

- ✓ Some suggested that these students should adjust better with the local food.
- ✓ Some suggested that these students should learn at least basic local language to communicate in the public.
- ✓ The North East students must mingle more and make friendship with the local students, few suggested.
- ✓ In order to adjust with the local culture it is necessary to socialise with the local culture as few opined.
- ✓ Some suggested North East students to learn the lifestyle of the local students.
- ✓ Few felt that he North East students must respect the local culture and local language more.
- ✓ North East students should be willing to participate in the local festivals and events as expressed by few.
- ✓ North East student should not refuse to take the responsibilities when it is imparted to them.

Conclusion:

It is interesting fact discovered that majority of the North East students are adapting well with the local culture which is a healthy sign that both are playing their part in building a congenial environment for peaceful co-existence. The North East students are adapting well with the local culture to a large extent because of the positive outlook towards them by the local residents. As a country of diverse race, respecting each other's culture without restraining is very important if we are to say we are one.

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