

# Differences in Big Five Personality Traits: A Cross Cultural Study of Kashmir & North East Adolescents

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## Abstract

Adolescence can be a time of both disorientation and discovery. The transitional period can raise questions of independence and identity; as adolescents cultivate their sense of self, they may face difficult choices about academics, friendship, sexuality, gender identity, drugs, and alcohol. Many contemporary personality psychologists believe that there are five basic dimensions of personality such as extraversion, agreeableness, openness, conscientiousness and neuroticism. The main objectives of the present study are to find out the differences in Big Five Personality Traits (extraversion, agreeableness, openness, conscientiousness and neuroticism.) among Kashmiri and North East Adolescents. The five null hypotheses were formulated to test the sample. A sample of 60 adolescents was taken of the students of two cultures as Kashmiri and North East from Mewar University, Chittorgarh (Rajasthan). The Purposive Sampling Technique has been used as per the nature of subjects included in research. The Big Five Personality Inventory designed by Dr. Arun Kumar Singh and Dr. Ashok Kumar from Patna University (Bihar) which is published by National Psychological Corporation, Agra was used to collect the data on five dimensions. The mean, standard deviation and “t” test were used to analyse the collected data. In conclusion, it can be said that there is significant difference between North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in relation to Big Five Personality Traits. The results of the present study indicate that there is no significant difference between North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in relation to the dimension of Extraversion. There is significant difference among North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in relation to Openness, Conscientiousness, Agreeableness and Neuroticism.

**Keywords:** Adolescence, Big Five Personality Traits, Personality, Cross Cultural Studies.

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## INTRODUCTION

Adolescence can be a time of both disorientation and discovery. The transitional period can raise questions of independence and identity; as adolescents cultivate their sense of self, they may face difficult choices about academics, friendship, sexuality, gender identity, drugs, and alcohol. Most teens have a relatively egocentric perspective on life; a state of mind that usually abates with age. They often focus on themselves and believe that everyone else—from a best friend to a distant crush—is focused on them too. They may grapple with insecurities and feelings of being judged. Relationships with family members often take a backseat to peer groups, romantic interests, and appearance, which teens perceive as increasingly important during this time. According to Bigner [1] “Adolescent can be defined as a stage in the life cycle between 13 and 18 years of age characterized by

increasing independence from adult controls, rapidly occurring physical and psychological changes, exploration of social issues and concerns increased focus on activities with a peer group and establishment of a basic self-identity”. According to C. L. Kundu and D.N. Tutoo [2] “The period of adolescent development is between the onset of puberty and adulthood. This period is generally marked by the appearance of secondary sex characteristics, usually from 11 to 13 years of age, and spans the teen years”. Cross-cultural psychology is concerned with the systematic study of behavior and experience as it occurs in different cultures, is influenced by culture, or results in changes in existing cultures. Three goals of comparative and non-comparative approaches can be discerned: (1) testing the applicability of (usually) Western theories and measures in a non-Western context, (2) exploring the role of cultural factors by extending the range of variation of cultural variables, and (3) integrating

culture into theories and measures in order to contribute to a truly universal psychology. These goals have an implicit temporal order. Cross-cultural psychology has enough impetus at present to conclude with confidence that important steps have been taken toward the realization of the first goal. Many contemporary personality psychologists believe that there are five basic dimensions of personality such as extraversion, agreeableness, openness, conscientiousness and neuroticism. Many researchers believe that they are five core personality traits. The Big Five model resulted from the contributions of many independent researchers. Gordon Allport and Henry Odbert first formed a list of 4,500 terms relating to personality traits in 1936 [3]. Their work provided the foundation for other psychologists to begin determining the basic dimensions of personality. In the 1940s, Raymond Cattell and his colleagues used factor analysis (a statistical method) to narrow down Allport's list to sixteen traits. However, numerous psychologists examined Cattell's list and found that it could be further reduced to five traits. Among these psychologists were Donald Fiske, Norman, Smith, Goldberg, and McCrae & Costa [4]. In particular, Lewis Goldberg advocated heavily for five primary factors of personality [5]. His work was expanded upon by McCrae & Costa, who confirmed the model's validity and provided the model used today: conscientiousness, agreeableness, neuroticism, openness to experience, and extraversion.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the difference in relation to Openness as a Big Five Personality Trait.
- To study the difference in relation to Conscientiousness as a Big Five Personality Trait.
- To study the difference in relation to Extraversion as a Big Five Personality Trait.
- To study the difference in relation to Agreeableness as a Big Five Personality Trait.
- To study the difference in relation to Neuroticism as a Big Five Personality Trait.

## Tools for Data Collection

The Big Five Personality Inventory designed by Dr. Arun Kumar Singh and Dr. Ashok Kumar from Patna University (Bihar) which is published by National Psychological Corporation, Agra. The test has 180

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### Variables of Study

1. **Independent Variable (IV):** Kashmiri Adolescents & North East Adolescents
2. **Dependent Variable (DV):** Big Five Personality Traits

### Hypotheses of the Study (H<sub>0</sub>)

1. There will not be significant difference among Kashmiri and North East Adolescents in relation to Openness.
2. There will not be significant difference among Kashmiri and North East Adolescents in relation to Conscientiousness.
3. There will not be significant difference among Kashmiri and North East Adolescents in relation to Extraversion.
4. There will not be significant difference among Kashmiri and North East Adolescents in relation to Agreeableness.
5. There will not be significant difference among Kashmiri and North East Adolescents in relation to Neuroticism.

### Sampling & Sampling Method

The Big Five Personality Inventory designed by Dr. Arun Kumar Singh and Dr. Ashok Kumar from Patna University (Bihar) which is published by National Psychological Corporation, Agra. The test has 180 items in total which are in Hindi and has 5 dimensions:

- Openness to experience
- Conscientiousness
- Extraversion
- Agreeableness
- Neuroticism (Negative Factor)

The sample has collected from the students of Mewar University, Chittorgarh (Rajasthan). 30 adolescents (male and female) from Kashmir and 30 from North East have selected for the present investigation. In the study Purposive Sampling Technique has been used as per the nature of subjects included in research. To Test the hypotheses that constructed for the research topic, data and information were collected by using "The Big Five Personality Inventory" in which information was gathered from a sample population of total 60 students.

Table-1

Adolescents Category	Number of Adolescents	Σ
Kashmiri Adolescents	30	60
North East Adolescents	30	

items in total which are in Hindi and has 5 five dimensions such as Openness, Conscientiousness, Extraversion, Agreeableness and Neuroticism (Negative Factor).

## DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

**Table-2: Openness: North East Adolescents × Kashmiri Adolescents**

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t	Sig
1.	North East Adolescents	30	58.3	4.36	7.96	S
2.	Kashmiri Adolescents	30	50.6	3.12		

### Interpretation

The results indicate that there is significant difference between Adolescents of North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in relation to Openness. North East Adolescents received higher

mean 58.3 score as compared to Kashmiri Adolescents with mean of 50.6. The obtained 't' value on Openness is 7.96. It means hypothesis is rejected. It can be said that North East Adolescents have higher openness in their personality in compare to Kashmiri adolescents.

**Table-3: Conscientiousness: North East Adolescents × Kashmiri Adolescents**

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t	Sig
1.	North East Adolescents	30	56	5.36	3.3	S
2.	Kashmiri Adolescents	30	51.9	4.32		

### Interpretation

The results indicate that there is significant difference between Adolescents of North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in Conscientiousness. North East Adolescents received

higher mean 56 score as compared to Kashmiri Adolescents with mean of 51.9. So we can say that North East Adolescents have higher conscientiousness than Kashmiri Adolescents. The obtained t value is 3.3 which are significant. It means hypothesis is rejected.

**Table-4: Extraversion: North East Adolescents × Kashmiri Adolescents**

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t	Sig
1.	North East Adolescents	30	54.8	6.55	0.14	NS
2.	Kashmiri Adolescents	30	54.6	4.39		

### Interpretation

The results indicate that there is no significant difference between Extraversion in North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in relation to

Extraversion. The "t" value on Extraversion is 0.14. It means hypothesis is accepted. Thus it can be concluded that Extraversion is almost present in adolescents of both the communities.

**Table-5: Agreeableness: North East Adolescents × Kashmiri Adolescents**

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t	Sig
1.	North East Adolescents	30	56.33	5.82	6.42	S
2.	Kashmiri Adolescents	30	48.43	3.58		

### Interpretation

The results indicate that there is significant difference between Adolescents of North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in relation to Agreeableness. North East Adolescents received higher

mean 56.33 score as compared to Kashmiri Adolescents with mean of 48.43. The obtained "t" value is 6.42. So we can say that North East Adolescents have more agreeableness in their personality in compare to Kashmiri Adolescents. It means hypothesis is rejected.

**Table-6: Neuroticism: North East Adolescents × Kashmiri Adolescents**

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t	Sig
1.	North East Adolescents	30	52	3.49	2.56	S
2.	Kashmiri Adolescents	30	49.9	4.44		

### Interpretation

The results indicate that there is significant difference between Adolescents of North East Adolescents and Kashmiri Adolescents in Neuroticism. North East Adolescents received higher mean 52 score as compared to Kashmiri Adolescents with mean of 49.9. The obtained "t" value is 2.56 which are statistically significant. It means hypothesis is rejected.

Thus it can be concluded that neuroticism is more in North east Adolescents than Kashmiri Adolescents.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it can be said that there is significant difference between North East students and Kashmiri students in relation to Personality dimensions. According to the present study results indicate that there is no significant difference between North East Students

and Kashmiri Students in relation to the dimension of Extraversion also in the present investigation it has been found that there is significant difference between North East students and Kashmiri in relation to Openness, Conscientiousness, Agreeableness and Neuroticism.

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