

Hope of the of Parents of Primary School Children on Career in a Rural Community of Raozan Upazila, Chattogram

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ABSTRACT

Background: Parents always think about the career of their children. They try to guide the children in such way so that they can lead an independent life in future. The social status, educational background, family environment, ambition etc. forms the basis of thinking of the parents for their children. This study was conducted to find out the pattern of hope of the parents of Primary School Children on career in a rural community of Raozan Upazila, Chattogram District of Bangladesh.

Materials and methods: This descriptive type of cross sectional study was conducted during the period February to October 2021. 100 respondents were selected by purposive type of non-probability technique. Face to face interviews were performed for information collection after getting consent. A pre tested mixed type of questionnaire was used.

Results: 38% of the parents belonged to age group 31 to 35 years. Mean age of the parents was 25 years. Among them, 15% were of low socio- economic status and only 10% were of upper class. 45% of the parents had ambition that their child would be a doctor, 10% desired for teacher, 5% engineer and 7% as Islamic scholar. 93% parents had chosen Bangla medium school for their children. 65% parents had kept private tutor at home as mentor for their children and same percentage of parents expressed financial problems to provide education for their children,

Conclusion: Socio-economic and literacy status of the families as well as monthly income were closely associated with future planning and ambition of the children.

Key words: Ambition; Children; Primary school; Parents.

Introduction

Today's children are tomorrow's future. The education of childhood should be given utmost priority. Quality education should be provided for their future betterment. Early childhood education between age 3 to 5 years should be given utmost importance.¹ In the developing countries, a large number of children do not get effective education before basic education. Most children do not get education in their early ages due to

poverty, ignorance, natural calamities, epidemics, war, riots etc. Subsequently the nation is losing potential financial and human support which might help for national development.² In developing countries like Bangladesh, a lion share of the children could not go to school due to epidemic outbreak and natural calamities.³ Due to strategies of low and middle income countries which allocate only small budget on education creates a big barrier for children to admit in school.⁴ The cost of school admission and tuition varies according to location of the school.⁵ Parents always think about the career of their children. They try to guide the children in such way so that they can lead an independent life in future. The social status, educational background, family environment, ambition etc. forms the basis of thinking of the parents for their children. Gender also plays an important role in career selection of the children. Education starts at home. Parents are the best teacher of every children. The growth and proper development, their social activity, behavior are reflected by the lesson learned from home. Parents who are careful about their children can help to build a better future. Proper guidance and education of the children depends on how the parents are involved in their children education.⁶ It is often seen that the children of ambitious parents become more successful in life. Most of the parents try to give their children the best

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education⁷. This study aims to find out the ambition of parents of primary school going children regarding their future career.

Methods and materials

This descriptive type of cross sectional study was done during February to October 2021 in Berulia village of Raozan Upazila. 100 parents of primary school students were selected by purposive sampling. Information were collected from the parents by face to face interview using a mixed type of questionnaire. Data were compiled and analysis was done by scientific calculator and computer.

Inclusion criteria

- Parents of primary school children who were present during data collection.
- Those agreed to participate in the study.

Exclusion criteria

- Parents of primary school children who were not present during study time.
- Those who were not interested to participate in the study.

Results

Table I Socio demographic profile of the parents

Variables		Frequency	Percentage
Age	21-25 Years	25	25
	26-30 Years	26	26
	31-35 Years	38	38
	36-40 Years	5	5
	41-45 Years	4	4
	46-50 Years	2	2
Gender	Female	90	90
	Male	10	10
Education	Illiterate	10	10
	Primary	20	20
	Below SSC	30	30
	SSC	25	25
	HSC	10	10
	Graduate & above	5	5
Occupation	House wives	90	90
	Businessmen	8	8
	Daily labor	2	2
Socio economic status	Lower class	15	15
	Lower middle class	50	50
	Upper middle class	25	25
	Upper class	10	10

Above table reveals that majority (90%) respondents were female, 90% were housewives, 38% belonged to age group 31-35 years, 25% passed SSC, 50% belonged to lower middle class.

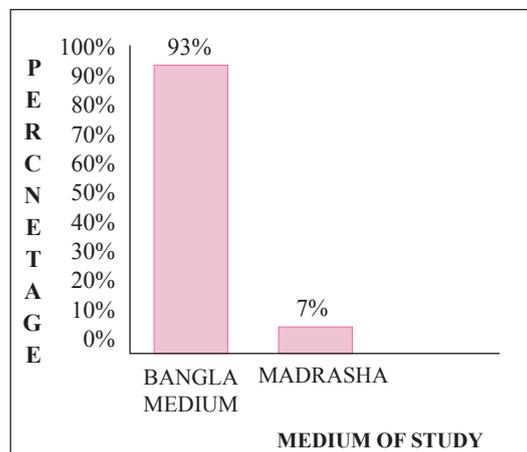


Figure 1 Education medium in schools. The medium of school where respondents children study, shows that 93% of respondents children study in Bangla medium schools

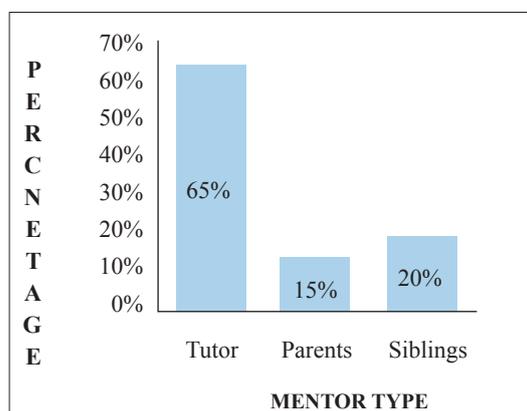


Figure 2 Types of mentor of the students. The kind of mentor at home for school children, shows that 65% of respondents prefer to keep home tutor

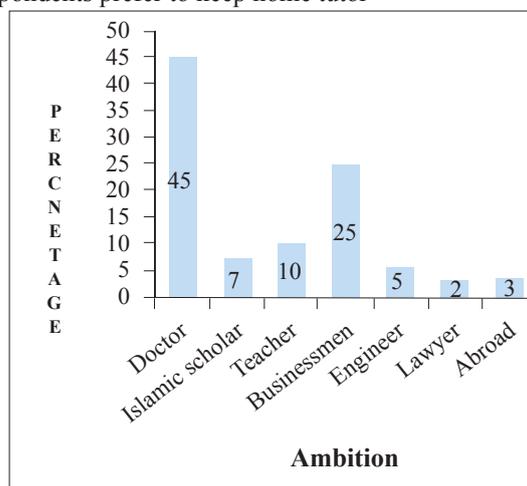


Figure 3 Ambition of the parents for their children

The above figure discloses that 45% parents wished their child would be doctor, 10% for Islamic scholar and 3% wanted to send their child abroad.

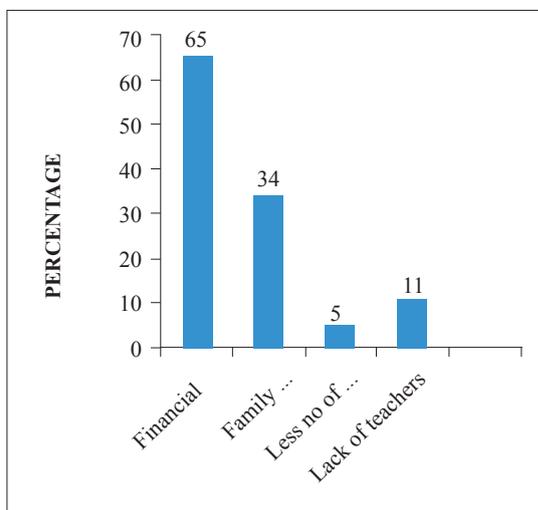


Figure 4 Difficulties faced by parents to continue education of their children

It is learned from figure that 65% parents faced financial problems, 34% parents had family problems in providing education to their children.

Table II Education Expenditure of parents for children's education (n=100)

Amount (TK)□	Frequency□	Percentage
1000 - 2000 □	38□	38
2000 -3000 □	22□	22
3000- 4000 □	30□	30
4000+ □	10□	10

From the above table it is seen that 38% parents spent about TK. 1000-2000/- per month for their children education and 10% utilized more than TK. 4000/- per month.

Discussion

In this study, it is seen that 38% parents belonged to age group 31 to 35 years and 26% were of age ranging from 26 to 30 years. No matter the age of parents or the age of children, parents always have tremendous influence over their children.⁸

Among the study subjects, it was found 90% of the respondents were female and only 10% were male [Table I]. This discrepancy on gender was due to availability during data collection. Data were collected during Office time. In that time, the male parents go outside home for their business, job, cultivation works etc. in the village of Raozan Upazila. Considering education of the respondents, it is seen that 10% were illiterate, 25% passed SSC, 10% passed HSC and 5% were graduate. After liberation, GOB has given tremendous effort to increase the literacy of the country.

In 2018, it was 73.91% for the people of 15 years and above. In Japan, literacy is 99% and in Srilanka, 91.71%.⁹ Literacy of a country is directly proportional to the development of a country. Out of 100 respondents, majority 90% were house wives, 8% were businessmen and only 2% were daily labor (Table I). Bangladesh is now home of 16.5 million farmer families (BBS, 2019). Around 56 million women are residing in rural areas of Bangladesh, need proper empowerment for development of the country. Regarding socio-economic status of the parents, 15% were of lower class, 50% lower middle class, 25% upper middle class and 10% belonged to upper class status. The performance of the economy can be measured with the help of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) i.e. the value of all products and services produced within the boundary of a country.¹⁰ GDP of Bangladesh for the year 2013-2014 was 6.12% where the growth is 12.68% from the previous year. GNI is 4.76% which is grown by 11.24% compared with the previous year (Nahian, 2016). About medium of education, it is seen that 93% respondents had sent their children to Bangla medium school and 7% to Madrasa (Figure 1). From the study it is evident that 65% parents had arranged private tutor at home as mentor, while 15% parents involved themselves in helping their children to do their home work and 20% children had their siblings as their home mentor (Figure 2). Certainly, academic ambition can influence students' learning, preparation for life choices, academic motivation and achievement. It is without doubt that the academic achievement of students depends on number of basic factors of which effort is paramount.¹¹ Focusing on the main objective of the study it is seen that 45% parents hoped their children to become a Doctor, 7% parents wanted their children to be a Islamic Scholar, 10% parents want their children to be a teacher, 25% want their children to be a businessmen, 5% for a Lawyer and 2% wanted to send their children to abroad (Figure-3). Regarding the expenses of education, 38% parents mentioned that they had to spent Tk. 1000-2000 per month for their children. Another group of 22% parents disclosed expense of Tk. 2000-3000 per month. 30% parents said they spent around TK.3000-4000 per month. The highest cost for education of primary level children maintained by 10% parents were more than TK. 4000 per month (Table II). In Dhaka city, tuition fees of Nursery level school are Tk. 12000-15000/month. Though primary and secondary level education is free in Government level Institutes of Bangladesh, tutor and transport cost, miscellaneous logistic purpose expenditure have to bear by the guardians.¹²

Limitation

Sample size was small and sample was taken by purposive method in which question of personal bias might arise.

Conclusion

Education is one of the basic rights of human being. Most of the primary level students are going to school. But for different reasons, this level is gradually declined in upper classes. Some of the reasons for this are poverty, ignorance, gender issue, familial disharmony, political situation, the parent's attitude towards their children education is generally very positive. They want to educate their child up to the maximum level as much as they can afford. Guardians are ambitious and bears the dream that their child will be doctor, businessman, teacher, great administrator, engineer etc. By the full effort and capacity, parents with all support try to help their children to fulfil the dream for a nice career in future. So, the state should ensure institutional support, proper guideline, education environment to build up a child as a good citizen. This study is a reflection of parents on their child in future and their ambition. If proper utilization can be done of these findings, only then the research will be fruitful. Otherwise all the effort will be in vain, only wastage of time and money.

Recommendation

It can be suggested that the government should extend more support to school program sector so that the goals can be achieved through the private -public partnership.

Disclosure

All the authors declared no conflicts of interest.

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