

An Investigation into Grade 8 Students' Attitude and Motivation Towards Science Learning

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Abstract

The major purpose of this study was to investigate Grade 8 students' attitude and motivation towards science learning. Quantitative approaches were used in this study. A total of 800 Grade 8 students from eight selected schools in Ayeyarwady region and Yangon region were participated in this study. As the research instruments, Test of Science-Related Attitudes (TOSRA) by Fraser (1978) and Students' Motivation Towards Science Learning (SMTSL) by Huang and Tuan (2001); Tuan and Chin (1999, 2000), Wu and Tuan (2000) were used in this study. Subjects were evaluated using these two questionnaires including 90 items to assess Grade 8 students' attitude and motivation towards science learning. In this research, descriptive statistics, independent sample *t*-test and analysis of variance (ANOVA) were used. As a result of descriptive statistics, the mean percentages of students' attitude and motivation towards science learning were 73.93 and 74.26 respectively. In both students' attitude and motivation towards science learning, the mean scores of Yangon students were higher than those of Ayeyarwady students. By assessing the Ayeyarwady and Yangon students' attitude towards science learning, the mean score of female students was higher than that of male students. There was statistically significant difference in the students' motivation towards science learning by schools in Yangon region.

Key words: Attitude, Motivation, Science Learning, Quantitative Approaches

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