

# The Study of "Affiliation" a pertinent social motive among tribal and non-tribal college students of Assam

Dr Manidipa Baruah

Assistant professor, Department of Psychology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam  
[drmanidipa@yahoo.com](mailto:drmanidipa@yahoo.com)

**Abstract:** The current research study investigates the motivational pattern viz Affiliation motivation among the tribal students of Assam. The sample consisted of 240 college students (120 tribal and 120 non-tribal) ranging from 18-24 years, 60 males and 60 females for both tribal and non-tribal. Attempts were made to include all the prominent tribes of Assam viz. Bodo Kachari, Karbi, Miris, Lalung, Dimas Kachari and Rabhas, Thematic Apperception Test and semi structured interview schedule were administered for information about their family types, parental deprivation, parental relations, social and political belongingness. Mean, Standard Deviation, and t-test were the statistical measures adopted in this 2x2 factorial design study. In addition to this discriminant analysis has been worked out to strengthen the predictive validity of the obtained data. TAT scores reveal significant difference between the tribal's and non-tribal on Affiliation motivation. However results obtained on gender difference indicates dissimilar scores among both the cultures. Results depict that tribal college students possess low affiliative tendency as compared to non-tribal. Further n-affiliation was studied on two directions showing significant difference in both cultures. Scores on discriminant analysis depict that n-emotional (.227) is the dependent measure which has the most discriminating affiliative tendency among both the cultures.

**Keywords:** Affiliation, Associative, Culture, Discriminant analysis, Emotional, Gender, Motivation, Students, Social, Tribal

## I. INTRODUCTION

**Affiliation** refers to "the tendency to be with others or please others. A person high in this need is perceived to be friendly, sociable, affectionate and positive natured. Such an individual performs better in group than alone (Sorrentino and Sheppard, 1978). Affiliation plays a very complex but vital role in human behavior and affiliation is also equated with social motive and/or group dynamics. Mclelland (1971) believes that relationship among affiliation, achievement and power are important in both individual and social groups. Studies of n-affiliation and n-power are carried by utilizing fantasy in the form of stories developed by the subjects. The need for Affiliation is revealed by evidence of the subject concerned for establishing and maintaining positive affective relationship.

Affiliation motivation can be expressed in many ways:

- By showing need for social integrity, being a part of a Group.
- By joining organization and involving in group participation and companionship and interaction.
- By building relationships (parent relative or lover) and is devoted to such relationship believes in love affair and marriage

The leading advocate of this motive was the pioneering behavioral scientist Mclelland (1971) believes that one who has high need for affiliation also has high need for achievement and power and is a very

important social motive for success and achievement in personal and social life.

Psychologists refer to need for affiliation as socialization behavioral needs are fulfilled and motives like achievement have psychological roots on affiliation motivation. Some cultural groups associate achievement with goals of affiliation and social belongingness more than with individual goals. Persons high in n-affiliation also have high EQ and show positive correlation with achievement motivation.

There is dearth of research in Assam, especially among the tribal on affiliation motivation. An attempt has been made to carry out a study on such motivational variable which may facilitate the investigation program for the upliftment of tribal population of Assam.

## 1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The objectives of this research project are to:

- To find out the differentiating cultural elements prevalent among tribal.
- To assess the motivational drive among tribal viz n-affiliation and to find out whether their motivational pattern really differ from the non-tribal college students.
- To explore the area where these tribal with the existing motivational pattern can utilize their full potential.

- To find out the possibilities of providing the enriched stimulating environment which can help in shaping their motives in the right direction.

### 1.3 HYPOTHESES:

In view of the above objectives, relevant psychological tests have been adopted on which the following hypotheses are formulated:

- Tribal college students score low on n-affiliation as compared to non-tribal college students.
- The female college students score lower on n-affiliation as compared to male college students among tribal as well as non-tribal college students.
- No difference exists between the scores obtained on Associative and Emotional in both the cultures.

## II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Research Design:

In the present investigation 2X2 factorial design has been adopted. Two main independent variables are investigated having two different factors namely:

Culture- Tribal Vs Non-Tribal

Sex- Male Vs Female

### 2.2 Sample:

The sample will include 120 tribal college students and 120 non-tribal students i.e. 240 altogether ranging from 18 to 24 years, out of which 60 students are male and 60 students are female in each group. Tribal college students were from the popular tribes of Assam viz. Bodo Kachari, Karbi, Miris, Lalung, Dimasa kachari, Rabha

### 2.3 Procedure/Method:

Descriptive data are typically collected through a questionnaire, interview or

observation. Thus the current research adopted descriptive method undergoing the procedure of (1) Selecting sample of a population, 2) Collecting information through questionnaires, 3) synthesizing findings based on the collected data in order to gauge the motivational pattern of the tribal and the non-tribal students.

### 2.4 Data Collection:

#### 2.1.1 Sampling Technique

Purposive sampling technique was adopted.

#### 2.1.2 Research tools

This research will be conducted around two major tools of research to assess the achievement motivation of the students and exploring the cultural components. 1) Interview Schedule 2) Thematic Apperception Test.

##### 2.1.1.1 The Interview Schedule:

The interview schedule included the following as a sources of data collection.

- Demographic- It consists of items like age, sex and education.
- Home environment: It includes items related to home conditions and parental relationship.
- Cultural Variables: The items related to social and political belongingness.

##### 2.1.1.2 Thematic Apperception Test-

Thematic Apperception Test, also known as TAT is a widely used projective technique used both in clinical as well as non-clinical setting. It was developed by Murray in 1935. According to Murray the purpose of TAT is to reveal "some dominant drives, emotions, sentiments, complexes and conflicts of personality" "This. test consists of a series of ambiguous pictures. Persons taking the test are asked to make up stories about them. These are then scored by psychologically trained researcher. However as TAT is administered on the Indian Sample so the Indian Adaptation of this test by Dr Uma Choudhury is administered.

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1 Data Analysis of Interview Schedule:

240 students were given the schedule and the response rate was 100%. The first five questions which were based upon demographic information. It shows that the mean age of the tribal and non-tribal college students are 21.08 and 21.06 respectively. Again with regard to education students from different educational status viz., graduation and post graduation were matched. Number of students in graduation were 20 males and 24 females among both tribal and non-tribal while in post-graduation number of students were again 40 males and 36 females, among tribal's as well as non-tribal's. Again most of the students were from middle class family from both cultures. Therefore it can be inferred with assertion that the subjects were matched on demographic variables viz., age, educational status, family class.

Responses on questions pertaining to family environment are presented below:

TYPE OF FAMILY	TRIBALS (N=120)	NON-TRIBALS (N=120)
JOINT NUCLEAR	12	5
AVERAGE NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS	7.61	5.87

**TABLE NO 1(a)**

**Table 1 (A): Showing Type of Family among tribal and non-tribal college students**

The data obtained indicates that very few subjects had joint family. In tribal it is 10% and in non-tribal's it is only 4.15% as compared to nuclear families in tribal's and non-tribal's being 90% and 95.85% respectively. On the other hand the average number of family members of the tribal's are 7.61 which is higher the non-tribal's being 5.87. This indicates commonality in relation to the type of family showing nuclear pattern.

**Table 1(B): Showing Parental deprivation**

	TRIBALS		NON-TRIBALS	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
FATHER	24 (20%)	96 (80%)	14 (11.66%)	106 (88.33%)
MOTHER	11 (9.15%)	109 (91.85%)	6(5%)	114(95%)

It has been observed that most of the subjects have both parents alive . Among tribal's 80% of their father are alive

while among non-tribal's 88.33% are alive . In case of mothers it was seen that among tribal's 91.85% were alive and again among non-tribal's it was 94%. It appeared that both these groups of students were reared and nurtured by both parents.

PARENTAL RELATION	TRIBALS	NON-TRIBALS
Positive	104 (86%)	106 (88.33%)
Negative	16 (13.50%)	14 (11.66%)

**Table 1 (C): Showing Parental Relations**

In Assam both cultures show good relationship among parents. The percentages of families where healthy relation prevails among parents surpass that of families with strained parental relations for both tribal and non-tribal. The families with positive relations for tribal and non-tribal are 86% and 88.33% respectively. Whereas negative relations were 13.50% and 11.66% among tribal and non-tribal respectively. The above data thus shows that congenial atmosphere exist in the homes of families among both the cultures.

The interview schedule also consisted of questions relating to incidence of drug addiction in the families and social and political belongingness. Results are displayed on the table:

Type of Drug Addiction	Tribals	Non-tribals
Cigarette	54	62
Paan	77	81
Alcohol	72	38
Hard Core	0	0

**TABLE 1 (d)**

**INCIDENCE OF DRUG ADDICTION IN FAMILY**

Incidence of drug addiction show that among tribal 45% are addicted to cigarette and among non-tribal it is 51.66% and to in terms of Paan it is 64.17% and 67.5% among tribal and non-tribal respectively. However tribal are more addicted (60%) as compared to non-tribal (31.66%). It has been observed that alcohol known as rice beer which is brewed

from rice, is commonly used rather than Indian made foreign liquor and consumed during festive occasions and community festivals.

**TABLE 1 (e)**

**SHOWING SOCIAL AND POLITICAL BELONGINGNESS**

Type	Tribal	Non-Tribal
Hereditary Aristocracy	0	0
No Class Distinction	102	84
Existence of Wealth Distinction	18	36
Representing Level Affiliation	30	45
Representing one level above community	20	32
Representing within the community	18	30

Hereditary aristocracy is not prevalent among tribal as well as non-tribal. Class distinction do not exist in tribal society where as in non-tribal society due to their cultural difference and advancement in economic and political belongingness the percentage is higher than tribal. Social and political belongingness is quite low among the tribal in comparison to non-tribal. Hence tribal development has been very slow. This also has relevance to low interactions and has positive co-relation with n-affiliation.

**3.2 Analysis of TAT responses**

The Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) has proved to be very effective tool in researching affiliation motivation.

**Table 2: Showing Mean and Standard Deviation for the scores obtained on TAT for n-Affiliation for tribal and non-tribal college students**

	Mean	Standard Deviation
Total tribal students	20.61	11.04
Total non-tribal students	25.23	11.12
Tribal male	19.03	10.51
Tribal female	22.18	11.42
Non-Tribal male	24.93	12.12
Non-Tribal female	25.52	10.11

**Table 3: t values for tribal and non-tribal students on n-affiliation**

\*\*significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance\*

The scores obtained on M and SD of the n-affiliation among tribal and non-tribal students are 6.78 (5.19) vs 13.89 (7.39).The t-value is found to be(3.23) and is significant

	t-values
Total tribal Vs Non -tribal	3.23**
Tribal Male Vs Non-tribal Male	2.58**
Tribal Female Vs Non-tribal Female	1.69
Tribal Male Vs Non-tribal Female	3.44**
Tribal Female Vs Non-tribal male	1.28

at.01 level. Thus tribal have low need for affiliation, so having a tendency to be friendly and social showing stronger social motive among non-tribal . Communication among non-tribal is more effective then in comparison to the tribal. This supports the findings of Triandis (1972) that Indian achievement is through social power and approval as compared to west. Hence, positive relationship exist between n-achievement and n-affiliation among both cultures.

On gender difference among tribal male and tribal female the M and SD scores are 19.03 (10.51) vs. 22.18 (11.42).This result depicts that female tribal students score higher than male on n-affiliation. Again scores among non-tribal male and non-tribal female also show similar trend of result. . An important source of inducement of change in every tribal community faces erosion of political and social autonomy when it comes in contact with the modern system. Tribal societies are even unable to provide protection to civil liberties of its members. Again the obtained results confirm the findings of Chusmir Leonard .H (1983) were he reported that difference exist in the need for achievement and power among working male and female but not on affiliation.

Among the rest of the groups the t-value was found to be

Tribal male Vs non-tribal male ( 2.85) significant at .01 level

Tribal female Vs non-tribal female (1.69) non-significant.

Tribal male Vs non-tribal female (3.44) significant at .01 level

Tribal female Vs non-tribal male (1.28) non-significant

Again , the scores obtained on sex difference shows no significant difference. This again confirms the finding of Bist and Singha(1981) which states that the traditional Indian family has an authoritative structure stresses conformity and de-emphasizes autonomy and independence, Tandon ( 1981) also reported that every individual in Indian set up has position in the family hierarchy and keeping with his position he is expected to be obedient to his elders and nurturant towards those younger to him.

**Table 5 (a): Showing M, SD and T-value of Associative among Tribal and Non-tribal**

Variable	Tribal College Students		Non-tribal College students		t- value 2.28**
	M	SD	M	SD	
Associative	6.78	5.19	8.27	4.94	

\*\*significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance\*

Associative refers to a person having many friends and is sociable. He is a member of a congenial group. This is true within particular cultures and as non-tribal are more sociable and more associative than tribal so there exist a significant difference among the tribal and the non-tribal in this context. There exist no gender difference on associative among both the cultures.

**Tribal 5 (b): Showing M, SD and T-value on Emotional among Tribal and Non-tribal College students**

Variable	Tribal Male		Tribal Female		t-value
	M	SD	M	SD	
Emotional	13.89	7.69	17.14	7.63	3.35**

\*\*significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance\*

Emotional need in affiliation refers to the person who is affectionately devoted to parent relative lover. The person has love affair and gets married. There is a significant difference between the tribal and non-tribal on emotional where the non-tribal show stronger emotions, affection and open to love and strong bonding, the tribal culture though open to love marriages score low on emotional bonding and affection.

Variables	Function
N-affiliation	.235
Associative	.151
Emotional	.227

The discriminant function is a phase of analysis which examines the function to determine the relative variables in discriminating between groups of tribal and non-tribal. Here, for the interpretation purposes the ranking of dependent measures are made in terms of relative discriminative power. The discriminant functions involve examining the signs and magnitude of the standardized discriminant weight (sometimes referred to as discriminant coefficient). These ratings are based on absolute size of weightage. On n-affiliation among associative and emotional, emotional has the most discriminating power among tribal and non-tribal. Thus, showing that tribal score low on affection, love and bonding than on being friendly and sociable.

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