



Difference in Level of Educational Aspiration among adolescence girls: A study on Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore and Bidhannagar subdivisions

¹Ratna Biswas, ²Dr. Nandini Samaddar

¹Research scholar, ²Associate Professor

¹Education Department

Baba Saheb Ambedkar Education University [Erstwhile WBUTTEPA], Kolkata, India
and

¹Asst Prof. of Vidyasagar Teachers' Training College, Midnapore

²Satyapriya Roy College of Education, Kolkata, India

Abstract: Educational aspirations can be described as expectation of a learner regarding level of education he will achieve in his life. This acts as a motivating force which determines academic success, helps set career goals, and economically empowers adolescent girls. This quantitative survey study focuses on analyzing the differences in the level of educational aspiration among underprivileged adolescent girls (Class IX-X, BPL ration card holders) across five selected subdivisions of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal: Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore, and Bidhannagar. The Level of Educational Aspiration Test: LEAT-K was used to measure aspirations, and data were analyzed using the Mann-Whitney U test via IBM SPSS 20.0. The analysis compared mean rank scores of educational aspirations between reciprocal groups across the five subdivisions. The results demonstrated significant differences in the mean ranks of educational aspiration for seven out of the ten pairwise comparisons.

Index Terms - Adolescence girls, Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore and Bidhannagar, Educational Aspiration

I. INTRODUCTION

Educational aspiration is the driving force behind academic success and development of high career goals of adolescents. Aspirations can be influenced by personal, familial, socio-economic, and school-related factors. Adolescent girls must have high educational aspiration which will ensure their empowerment and participation in economic activities. Regional and socio-cultural contexts can cause differences in aspirations which needs to be eliminated by targeted interventions leading to gender-equitable educational outcomes.

1.1 Education Aspiration

Educational aspiration is related to the expectation or ambition about the level of education a student wants to achieve in the future. Aspiration can be described as one person's goal, desires, and vision about his educational career (Bashir & Peerzada, 2023). This aspiration drives the individual to achieve self-set goals (Hembram & Rout, 2024). Though Aspirations develop in childhood but are transformed and reshaped by experience and the environment (Chawla 2018). Educational aspiration is the driving force behind opting for higher education and creating career goals (Azyu & Kumar, 2025).

1.2 NEP 2020

NEP 2020 observed that educational aspiration in India is average with enrolments steeply declining from Grade 1 to Grade 12, which is severe for Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) as based on gender identities where female are disadvantaged, socio-cultural identities (such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, and minorities), geographical identities where rural are disadvantaged (NEP-2020, 6.2, p.24 as cited in Center of Policy Research and Governance, 2020).

1.3 Adolescent girls

Adolescents belong to 12 and 19 of years of age, transitional stage between childhood and adulthood where rapid physical, psychological, emotional, and social changes occur and in this stage future aspirations and social roles (Sharma 2024).

Girls' education is being prioritised in India as per recommendations of different committees and commissions, but regional differences persist. Research shows that factors as parental help, socio-economic status, school environment, peer influence, and

adult influence. Literature shows that there exists gap in literature exploring intra-district differences—majorly at the subdivision level.

The present study focuses on the level of educational aspiration among adolescent girls of the Barasat, Bangaon, Basirhat, Barrackpore, and Bidhannagar subdivisions of West Bengal. The present study aims to analyze the differences in the level of educational aspiration among adolescent girls across the five selected subdivisions.

II. Literature Review

Bashir & Peerzada (2023) observed that female students are comparatively better with their educational aspirations than male students. Basu & Khursheed (2023) found educational aspirations of the high school adolescent students is determined by parental expectations and aspiration, parental social support and family background. Sarma (2021) observed no significant difference in the educational aspiration among adolescents based on gender.

III. Objectives of the study

Present study examines the differences in the level of educational aspiration among adolescent girls across the five selected subdivisions to comprehend the regional disparities which exist

Objective 1. To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration among Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore and Bidhannagar

Objective 1.1 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Barasat and Bangaon subdivision

Objective 1.2 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Barasat and Bashirhat subdivision

Objective 1.3 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Barasat and Barrackpore subdivision

Objective 1.4 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivision

Objective 1.5 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivision

Objective 1.6 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivision

Objective 1.7 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivision

Objective 1.8 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivision

Objective 1.9 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivision

Objective 1.10 To compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration between Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivision

IV. Methodology of the study

4.1. Population of the Study- It includes all underprivileged adolescent girl students from class IX-X, having BPL ration cards, studying in North 24 Parganas

4.2. Sample- First phase researcher used cluster sampling technique to select five subdivisions (i.e., Barasat, Basirhat, Bongaon, Barrackpur and Bidhannagar) from West Bengal, followed by stratified sampling to divide clusters into urban and rural areas and finally convenience sampling technique was used to select schools from each subdivision. Eight schools from Barasat (rural= urban =4), 10 schools from Barrackpur (rural= 4, urban = 6), nine schools from Bongaon (rural= 5, urban =4), Eight schools from Basirhat (rural= urban =4), three schools from Bidhannagar (urban = 3). Total number of adolescent girls from Barasat (n =232), Basirhat (n =207), Bongaon (n =232), Barrackpur (n =204), and Bidhannagar (n =68). The age of adolescent girls was between 15-16 years studying in class IX and class X.

4.3. Tools- Educational Aspiration was measured by Level of Educational Aspiration Test: LEAT-K (English Version) by Dr. Yasmin Ghani Khan developed for students from class VIII to class X. Academic Achievement was calculated based on the percentage of last examination appeared.

4.4. Research design – Quantitative Survey design was used in the study

4.5. Data Collection & analysis- Spearman's Rank Correlation and Mann-Whitney U test were used to analysis of the data using IBM SPSS 20.0.

V. Analysis and Discussion

Objective 1: Compare the Mean Scores of the Level of Educational Aspiration among Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore and Bidhannagar Subdivisions. The objective was to compare the mean rank scores of Educational Aspiration between two groups reciprocally created from Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore and Bidhannagar subdivisions, and analysed below-

Objective 1.1: Between Barasat and Bangaon. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There

were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 1 and 2.

From table 1, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 20521.500 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 2 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

Table 1: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions

	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	20521.500
Wilcoxon W	47549.500
Z	-4.439
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division	

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivisions was 260.05 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 204.95. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat subdivision.

Table 2: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Barasat	232	204.95	47549.50
	Bangaon	232	260.05	60330.50
	Total	464		

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned that the students from Bangaon subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Barasat subdivision.

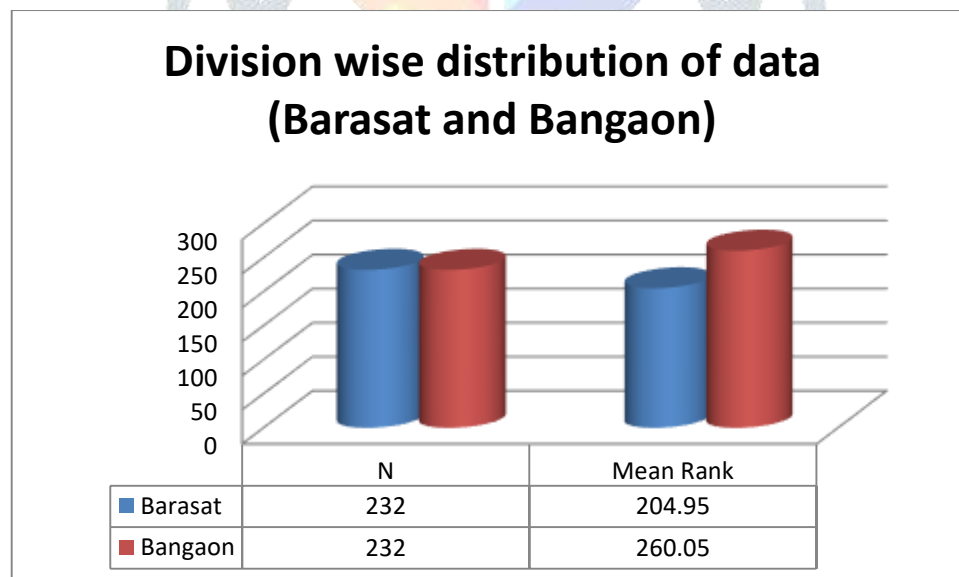


Figure 1: Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Barasat and Bangaon subdivisions

Objective 1.2: Between Barasat and Bashirhat. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bashirhat subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Barasat and Bashirhat subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 3 and 4.

Table 3: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Barasat and Bashirhat subdivisions

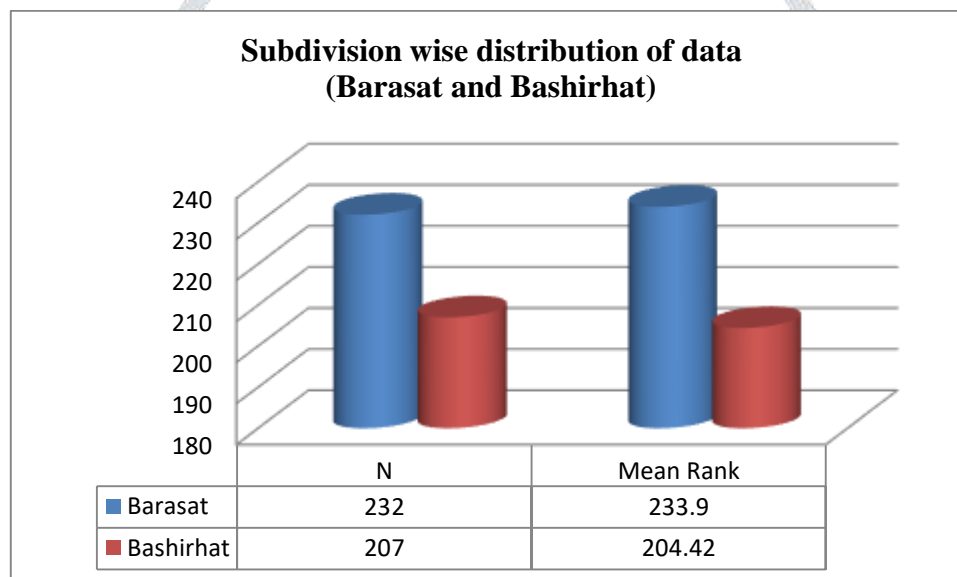
	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	20787.500
Wilcoxon W	42315.500
Z	-2.434
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.015

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

Table 4: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Barasat and Bashirhat subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Barasat	232	233.90	54264.50
	Bashirhat	207	204.42	42315.50
	Total	439		

From table 3, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 20787.500 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 4 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bashirhat subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

**Figure 2:** Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Barasat and Bashirhat Subdivisions

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat subdivision was 233.90 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls from Bashirhat subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 204.42. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat subdivision.

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bashirhat subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned that the students from Barasat subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Bashirhat subdivision.

Objective 1.3: Between Barasat and Barrackpore. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 5 and 6.

Table 5: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions

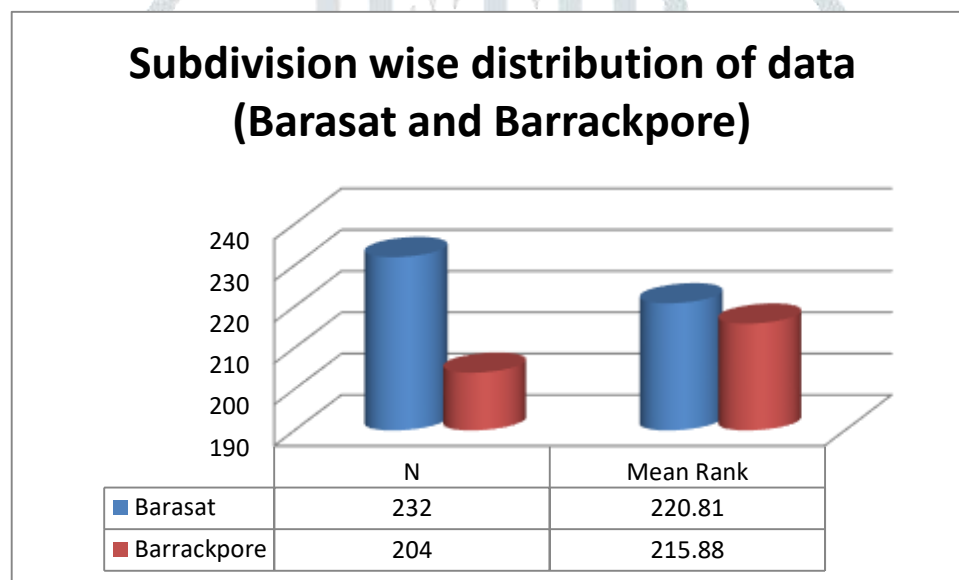
	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	23128.500
Wilcoxon W	44038.500
Z	-.409
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.683

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

From table 5, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 23128.500 which is not significant at 0.05 levels. And table 6 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students in Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal do not differ significantly. Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is accepted. It may, therefore, be said that the students from both Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions were found to have educational aspiration at the same extent.

Table 6: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Barasat	232	220.81	51227.50
	Barrackpore	204	215.88	44038.50
	Total	436		

**Figure 3:** Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions

Objective 1.4: Between Barasat and Bidhannagar. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 7 and 8.

Table 7: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivisions

	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	6686.000
Wilcoxon W	9032.000
Z	-1.915
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.056

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

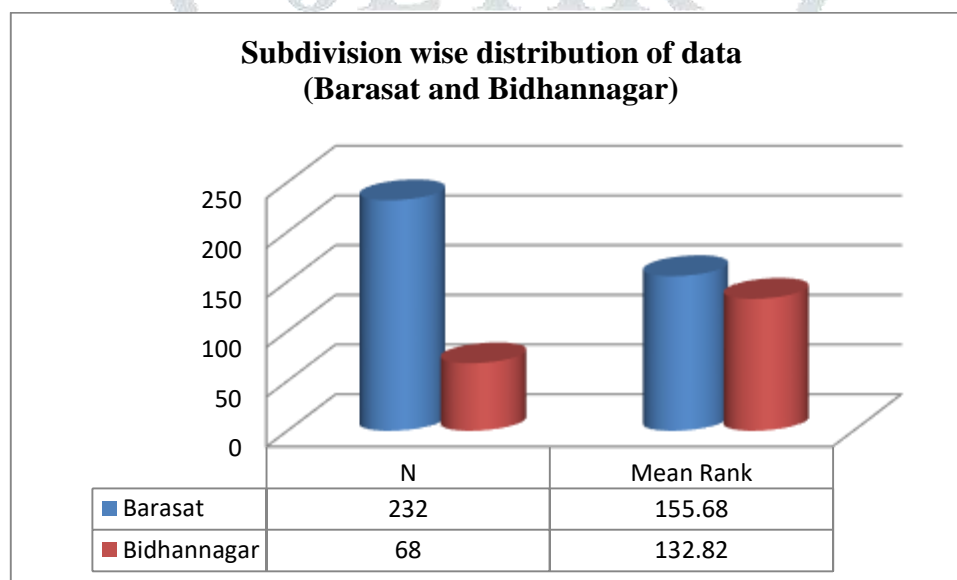
Table 8: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of *Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivisions*

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Barasat	232	155.68	36118.00
	Bidhannagar	68	132.82	9032.00
	Total	300		

From table 7, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 6686.000 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 8 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat subdivision was 155.68 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bidhannagar subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 132.82. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bidhannagar subdivision.

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned that the students from Barasat subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Bidhannagar subdivision.

**Figure 4 :** Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Barasat and Bidhannagar subdivision

Objective 1.5: Between Bangaon and Bashirhat. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 9 and 10.

From table 9, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 14353.000 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 10 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivision was 261.63 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 173.34. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat subdivision.

Table 9: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivisions

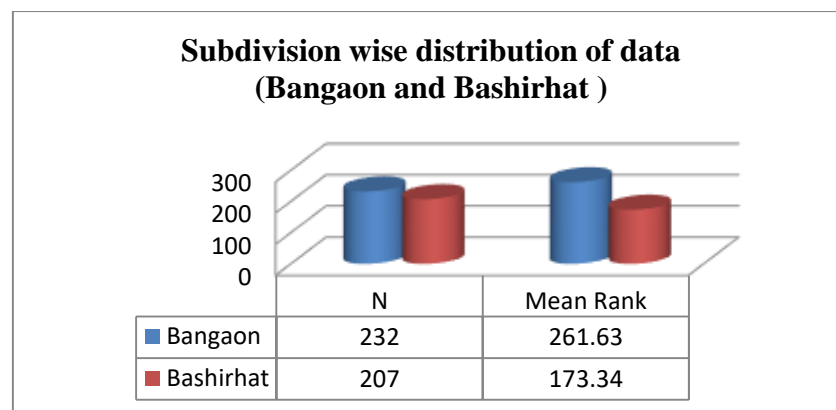
	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	14353.000
Wilcoxon W	35881.000
Z	-7.305
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

Table 10: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Bangaon	232	261.63	60699.00
	Bashirhat	207	173.34	35881.00
	Total	439		

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Bashirhat subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned earlier that the students from Bangaon subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Bashirhat subdivision.

**Figure 5:** Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Bangaon and Bashirhat Subdivisions

Objective 1.6: Between Bangaon and Barrackpore. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 11 and 12.

Table 11: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions

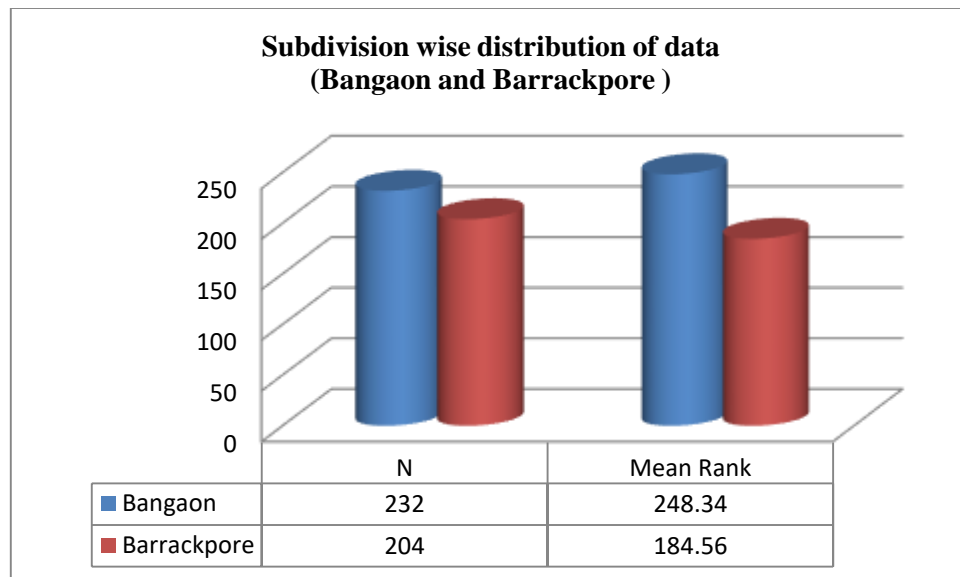
	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	16740.000
Wilcoxon W	37650.000
Z	-5.295
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

Table 12: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Bangaon	232	248.34	57616.00
	Barrackpore	204	184.56	37650.00
	Total	436		

From table 11, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 16740.000 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 12 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

**Figure 6:** Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivision was 248.34 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barrackpore subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 184.56. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barrackpore subdivision.

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Barrackpore subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned that the students from Bangaon subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Barrackpore subdivision.

Objective 1.7: Between Bangaon and Bidhannagar. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls' students from Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 13 and 14.

Table 13: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions

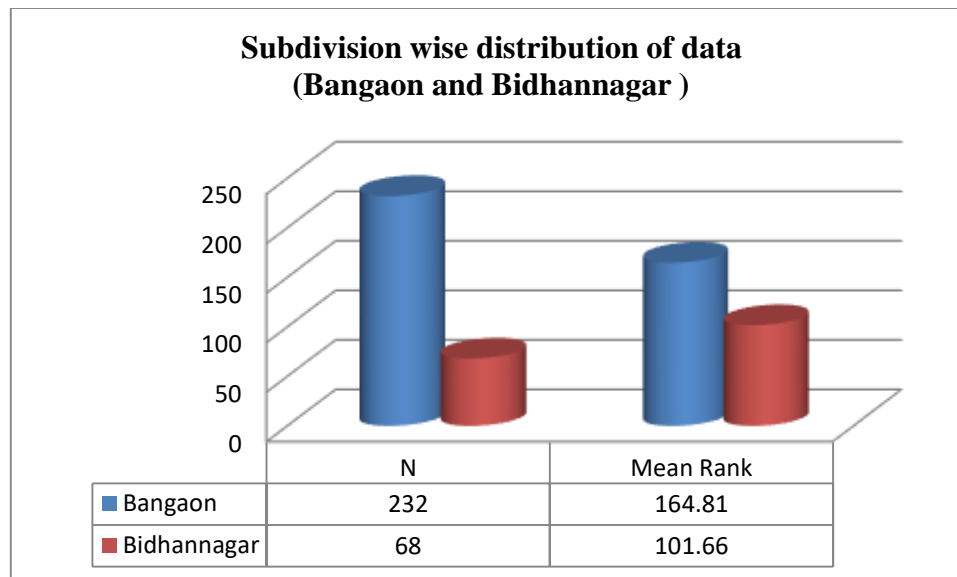
	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	4567.000
Wilcoxon W	6913.000
Z	-5.311
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

Table 14: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Bangaon	232	164.81	38237.00
	Bidhannagar	68	101.66	6913.00
	Total	300		

From table 13, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 4567.000 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 14 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

**Figure 7:** Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls from Bangaon subdivision was 164.81 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls from Bidhannagar subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 101.66. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bidhannagar subdivision.

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bangaon and Bidhannagar subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned that the students from Bangaon subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Bidhannagar subdivision.

Objective 1.8: Between Bashirhat and Barrackpore. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 15 and 16.

Table 15: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions

	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	18532.000
Wilcoxon W	40060.000
Z	-2.149
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.032

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

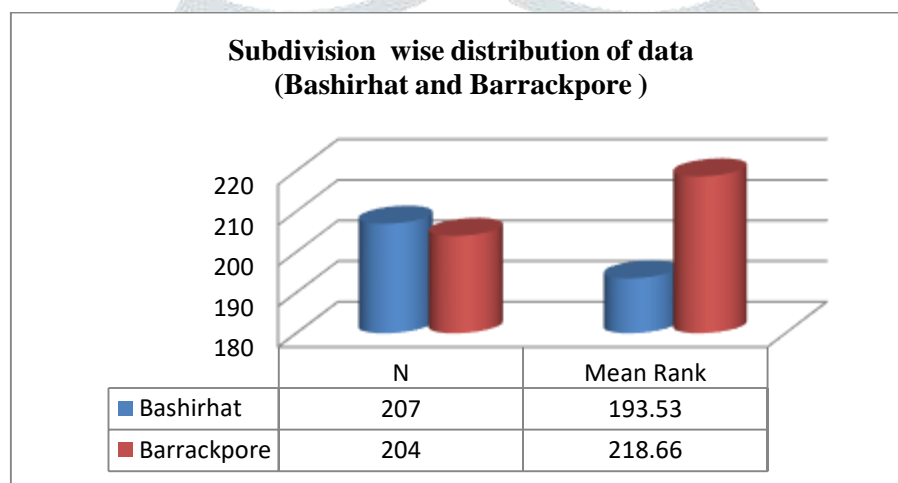
From table 15, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 18532.000 which is significant at 0.05 levels. And table 16 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal differ significantly.

Table 16: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Bashirhat	207	193.53	40060.00
	Barrackpore	204	218.66	44606.00
	Total	411		

Further, the mean rank of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls from Barrackpore subdivision was 218.66 which is significantly higher than the underprivileged adolescent girls from Bashirhat subdivision, whose mean rank score of educational aspiration was 193.53. It may, therefore, be said that the underprivileged adolescent girls students from Barrackpore subdivision have higher educational aspiration than their counter part underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat subdivision.

Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students from Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions in the schools of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is rejected. As it mentioned that the students from Barrackpore subdivision have better educational aspiration than the students from Bashirhat subdivision.

Figure 8: Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Bashirhat and Barrackpore subdivisions

Objective 1.9: Between Bashirhat and Bidhannagar. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 17 and 18.

Table 17: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions

	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	6873.000
Wilcoxon W	9219.000
Z	-.291
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.771

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

Table 18: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions

	Ranks			
	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Bashirhat	207	138.80	28731.00
	Bidhannagar	68	135.57	9219.00
	Total	275		

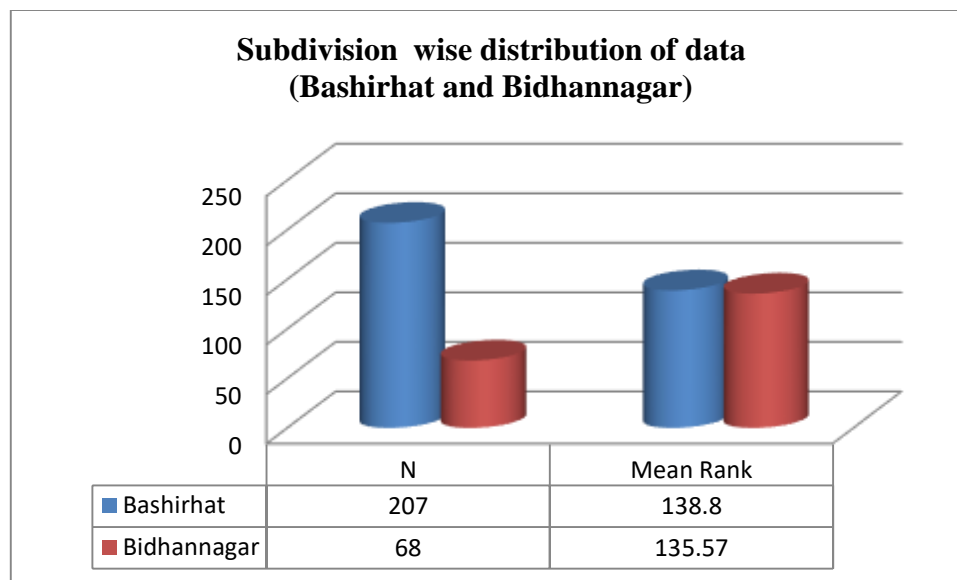


Figure 9: Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions

From table 17, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 6873.000 which is not significant at 0.05 levels. And table 18 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students in Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal do not differ significantly. Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is accepted. It may, therefore, be said that the students from both Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions were found to have educational aspiration at the same extent.

Objective 1.10: Between Bidhannagar and Barrackpore. The objective was to compare the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal. There were two types of underprivileged adolescent girls students from North 24 Parganas, namely Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions. The data were analysed with the help of Mann-Whitney U test using IBM SPSS 20.0 and the results are given in the table 19 and 20.

Table 19: The Mann-Whitney U test score of educational aspiration of Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions

	Educational Aspiration Score
Mann-Whitney U	6019.000
Wilcoxon W	8365.000
Z	-1.637
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.102

a. Grouping Variable: Sub Division

Table 20: Mean Rank of educational aspiration of Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions

	Sub Division	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Educational Aspiration Score	Barrackpore	204	141.00	28763.00
	Bidhannagar	68	123.01	8365.00
	Total	272		

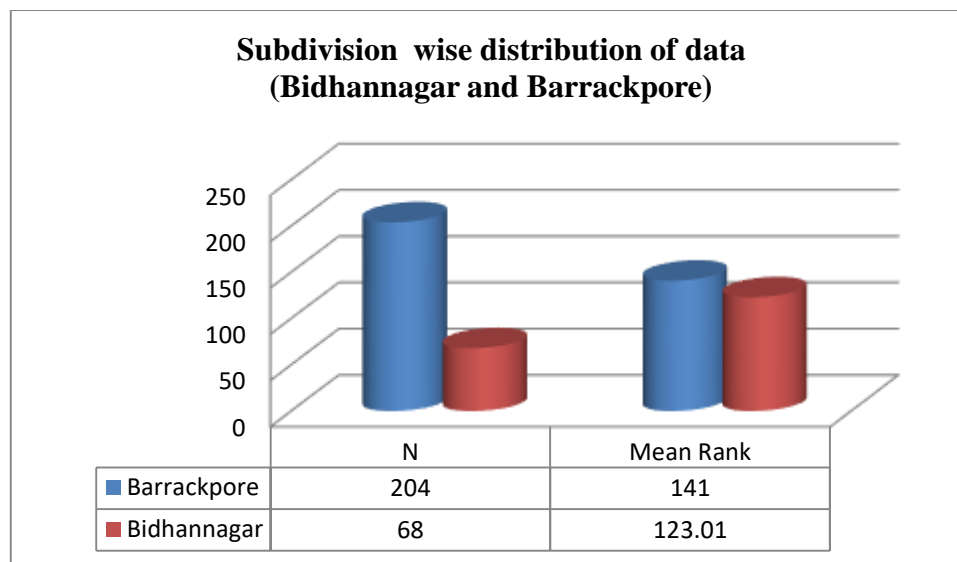


Figure 10: Graphical representation of Educational Aspiration data of Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions

From table 19, it can be seen that the Mann-Whitney U-value is 6019.000 which is not significant at 0.05 levels. And table 20 indicates that the mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal do not differ significantly. Thus, the Null Hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean ranks of level of educational aspiration of underprivileged adolescent girls students between Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal is accepted. It may, therefore, be said that the students from both Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions were found to have educational aspiration at the same extent.

VI. Conclusion

Researcher investigated the regional disparities in educational aspiration among underprivileged adolescent girls across the Barasat, Bangaon, Bashirhat, Barrackpore, and Bidhannagar subdivisions of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Based on Mann-Whitney U test comparing mean ranks, null hypothesis (no significant difference in mean ranks of educational aspiration exist) was rejected in the majority of pairwise comparisons.

Specifically, the results showed that underprivileged adolescent girls from Bangaon subdivision had better educational aspiration than those from Barasat, Bashirhat, Barrackpore, and Bidhannagar subdivisions. Similarly, students from Barasat subdivision exhibited better educational aspiration than students from Bashirhat and Bidhannagar, and Barrackpore students displayed better educational aspiration than those from Bashirhat.

However, the null hypothesis was accepted, meaning no significant difference was found, when comparing Barasat and Barrackpore subdivisions, Bashirhat and Bidhannagar subdivisions, and Bidhannagar and Barrackpore subdivisions. In these cases, students from both subdivisions were found to have educational aspiration to the same extent.

Significant differences in educational aspiration among adolescent girls based on their subdivision location show that regional and socio-cultural contexts are factors which result in differential aspirations. Elimination of regional disparities through targeted interventions, is required for ensuring adolescent girls' empowerment, and gender-equitable educational outcomes.

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