



## MEASURING PERSONALITY OF WOMEN LEADERS FROM THEIR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE: - A STUDY AMONG WOMEN LEADERS IN ODISHA

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### Introduction

*"Yam hi na vyathayanthyethe purusham  
purusharshabha*

*Samadhukha sukham dheeram  
somruthathvaya kalpathe"* <sup>[1]</sup>, [In Sanskrit]  
-- Bhagavad-Gita (Chapter II, Verse 15)

### Abstract

A study was conducted to measure Emotional Intelligence and Personality traits of women leaders of Odisha. In this study, the researcher has taken 2 constructs, one is Personality (measured by Big Five Factor Model) and the other one is Emotional Intelligence (EI- measured by WEIS Scale). The construct personality is having 5 latent variables in short called as OCEAN and the other construct EI is having 4 latent variables like Self emotion appraisal in short SEA, Others emotion appraisal in short OEA, use of emotions in short UOE and Regulation of emotions in short ROE. Help of G Power software was taken to calculate the probable sample size with one tail. Analysis was done by the help of SPSS version 23. A sample comprised of 64 women leaders from different sections were taken. The tests were conducted with the help of likert scale to measure the personality under Big Five Factor Model and Emotional Intelligence under Wongs Emotional Intelligence Scale. For analysis MANOVA test was conducted. The analysis found that, Both Personality and Emotional Intelligence of Women leaders are inter correlated with significant proportions .

**Keywords:** Emotional Intelligence, Personality, Big Five Factor Model, Wongs Emotional Intelligence Scale, Leadership

Emotional Intelligence (EI) may be a relatively new term, not more than 25 years old , but the roots of Emotional Intelligence (EI) can be found in The Bhagavad-Gita, 5000 years ago (Analytic sloka from the Bhagavad-Gita (Chapter II, Verse 15) sums up the entire concept of Emotional Intelligence (EI). It says: a person who is calm and remains unperturbed by either pain or pleasure is the one who attains immortality) where Lord Krishna's Sthithapragnya (Emotionally stable person) is very close to present day's Mayer and Salovey's Emotionally Intelligent person and also the work of Plato, 2000 years ago where he stated, — All learning has an emotional base. Since then, researchers, scientists, educators, and philosophers have worked to prove or disprove the importance of feelings and emotions in day to day life.<sup>[2]</sup>

When psychologists began to write and think about intelligence, they focused on cognitive aspects, such as memory and problem-solving. However, there were researchers who recognized early on that the non-cognitive aspects were also important. David Wechsler referred Intelligence to "non-intellective" as well as "intellective" elements, by which he meant affective, personal, and social factors. Robert Thorndike was writing about "social intelligence" in the late thirties. Unfortunately, the work of these early pioneers was largely forgotten or overlooked until 1983 when Howard Gardner began to write about "multiple intelligence." Gardner proposed that "intrapersonal" and "interpersonal" intelligences are as important as the type of



intelligence typically measured by IQ (Intelligent Quotient) and related tests.

In 1990, Mayer and Salovey introduced the concept of Emotional Intelligence as a distinct form of intelligence which can be measured and evaluated. Emotional intelligence is the concept which is widely believed by the public that emotional and social competence is as important, or even more important, than traditional dimension of intellectual ability and personality (Goleman, 1995, 1998). Emotional intelligence is defined as “the composite set of capabilities that enable a person to manage himself/ herself and others” (Goleman, 1995, 1998). “It is more accurate to say that the frequency with which a person demonstrates or uses the constituent capabilities, or competencies, inherent in emotional intelligence determine the ways in which he/ she deals with themselves, their life, work and others” (Boyatzis, Goleman and Rhee, 2000). It is the ability to : 1) be aware to understand and to express oneself; 2) be aware of, to understand, and to relate to others, 3) deal with strong emotions and control one’s impulses; and 4) adapt to change and to solve problems of a personal or a social nature (Bar-On, 1988).<sup>[4]</sup>

Personality is, what makes you “you”. It encompasses all the traits, characteristics, and quirks that set you apart from everyone else. Personality is: “the coherent pattern of affect, cognition, and desires (goals) as they lead to behavior” (Revelle, 2013). In the words of the American Psychological Association (APA), personality is: “individual differences in characteristic patterns of thinking, feeling, and behaving” (APA, 2017). It is “the entire mental organization of a human being at any stage of his development. It embraces every phase of human character... and every attitude that has been built up in the course of one’s life.” A person’s personality tends to be stable throughout life, and it often grows more pronounced over time. In fact, research suggests that as much as half of a person’s personality is driven by their genetic makeup; it

is biological. The rest is acquired through learning.<sup>[5]</sup>

Recent debates on EI have focused largely on whether EI has predictive power over above personality traits. Several studies have indicated that, trait EI might be a valid construct in the prediction of life satisfaction, somatic complaints, rumination and coping styles (Kluemper, 2008; Petrides, Pita & Kokkinaki, 2007)<sup>[6]</sup>. However, the ability of trait EI in an academic setting is still unclear (Tok & Morali, 2009; Barchard, 2003). Consistent say that emotional intelligence as a construct has been showed to be an independent construct from personality (Caruso, Mayer & Salovey, 2002; McCrae, 2000; Zadal, 2004; Vakola, Tsaousis & Nikolauo, 2004; Shulman & Hemeenover, 2006)<sup>[6]</sup>. Consensus is emerging that a five-factor model of personality can be used to describe the most salient aspects of personality (Goldberg, 1990). Women with high on emotional intelligence are also said to be good in using emotions to guide decision making and encourage open – minded in idea generation, because they can consider multiple points of view especially for those possess high in openness to experience domain.

### Literature Review

The first formal mention of emotional intelligence appears to derive from a German article entitled “Emotional Intelligence and Emancipation” published in the journal “Praxis der Kinderpsychologie und Kinderpsychiatrie”, by Leuner in 1966 (Matthews, et al., 2002). However, the first time that the term “emotional intelligence” appeared in the English literature was in an unpublished doctoral dissertation by Payne in 1986 (Matthews, et al., 2002). Since then, Emotional intelligence has captured the interest of both the popular press (e.g. Cooper & Sawaf, 1997; Goleman, 1995, 1996; Hein, 1997; Stiener, 1997; Wessinger, 1998) and of the scientific researchers (e.g. Davies, et al., 1998; Mayer, Caruso, & Salovey, 2000; Petrides & Furnham, 2000, 2001)<sup>[7]</sup>.



The concept of emotional intelligence can be traced to the notable research of Thorndike (1920), followed by the respective work of Moss and Hunt (1927), and Gardner (1983), in which they discussed and developed the related concept of social intelligence or multiple intelligence. As early as the 1930s, there have been studies of a possible emotional aspect to intelligence. In 1934, David Wechsler (of two well known intelligence tests) wrote of “non-intellective” aspect of intelligence. Gardner (1983) proposed a conceptualization of interpersonal intelligence—the competence to understand other people, and intrapersonal intelligence—the competence to understand the self and apply it effectively in life.

The term ‘Emotional Intelligence’ was coined and defined by Salovey and Mayer (1990). Despite its recent debut, there are already a number of definitions of EI. These conceptualizations can be divided broadly into two streams: ‘ability models’ in which EI is defined as a set of cognitive abilities in emotional functioning (Mayer & Salovey, 1997) versus ‘mixed trait models’ that incorporate a wide range of personality characteristics and other traits (Bar-On, 2001; Goleman, 1995, 1998; Petrides & Furnham, 2001)<sup>[7]</sup>

Some researchers described that, three main models of emotional intelligence exist. The first model by Peter Salovey and John Mayer perceives E.I. as a form of pure intelligence, that is, emotional intelligence is a cognitive ability (Ability Model). A second model by Reuven Bar-On regards E.I. as a mixed intelligence, consisting of cognitive ability and personality aspects. This model emphasizes how cognitive and personality factors influence general well-being. The third model, introduced by Daniel Goleman, also perceives E.I. as a mixed intelligence involving cognitive ability and personality aspects. However, unlike the model proposed by Reuven Bar-On, Goleman's model focuses on how cognitive and personality factors determine workplace success.

Research has found that significant relationships exist between all three models of E.I.. In addition, emotional intelligence has been consistently compared to three other constructs: personality, alexithymia (difficulty in feeling and distinguishing emotions), and leadership. Many traits contained in the Big Five Personality Factor Model are similar to those described by Bar-On and Goleman<sup>[4]</sup> in their models of emotional intelligence.

Personality characteristics of a leader can affect his or her organizational behavior. The personality traits of leader often become the center of attention due to its relationship with emotional stability while playing their role as a leader within an organization. Recent studies also demonstrate that personality traits are closely related to the achievement within an organization, especially with work performance, career development, leadership effectiveness (Barrick et.al, 2001, Judge et al., 1999<sup>[8]</sup>). Emotional intelligence and personality traits are two important constructs of psychology and there is substantial evidence that how these two constructs are related to each other.

There is another question that whether gender relates to EI and personality traits. There is scarcity of attention paid to gender differences on EI and Personality traits. It has been established stereotype that women tend to be more expressive than their counterpart men. They are believed to understand and recognize other's emotions better and possess greater empathy as being more perceptive (Aquino, 2003; Tapia & Marsh II, 2006). Existing literature yields contradictory findings on EI e.g. females were found higher (Katyal & Awasthi 2005; Singh, 2002) and some others witnessed males as higher on EI (e.g. Chu, 2002)<sup>[9]</sup>.

Mohanty and Devi (2010)<sup>[10]</sup> conducted study on gender difference. Sample size of 60 girls and boys were used. Result indicates that girls have higher scores than boys. Which means girls are positive, optimistic and well aware of their emotions than boys. Mishra and Ranjan



(2008) <sup>[10]</sup> investigated the effect of gender differences on emotional intelligences. Sample size of 80 participants was used in which 40 were males and 40 were females. Results indicate that gender difference effect emotional intelligence. Males have high score than females which shows that males have more resistant power against difficulties and to control and manage stress and their emotions in more positive way.

Significant gender differences were found in the results, with women scoring higher on Emotionality and men scoring higher on Self-Control, Sociability, and the global score. Such results are consistent with those obtained with the English version of the TEIQue.<sup>[11]</sup> They also echo those of Feingold (1994) who meta-analyzed gender differences in personality and found that women were more agreeable (more sensitive, etc.) and men more emotionally stable.<sup>[12]</sup> Theoretically, the fact that women scored higher on Emotionality is coherent with Western norms according to which expressing emotions is generally viewed as "unmanly" (Brody, 2000 Brody, L. R. 2000)<sup>[13]</sup>. Empirically, it is in line with findings obtained using the EQ-I (Slaski, 2001 Slaski, M. 2001)<sup>[14]</sup> and with data that showed that men scored slightly higher on alexithymia than women (Parker, Taylor, & Bagby, 2003 Parker, J. D. A., Taylor, G. J. and Bagby, R. M. 2003).

In the same vein, the fact that men scored higher than women on Self-Control is on one hand consistent with the divergent socialization of emotion as a function of gender (e.g., "Boys don't cry") and on the other hand in line with findings obtained using the EQ-I (i.e., men > women on stress management)<sup>[15]</sup>

On the other hand, the finding that men scored higher than women on Sociability could seem odd at first sight, especially as women are commonly thought to have higher social skills than men. However, a closer look at the subscales that compose the Sociability factor revealed that this factor does not refer to dimensions such as empathy or ability to initiate/maintain close relationships (which

abilities are part of the Emotionality factor) but rather to dimensions such as the ability to assert oneself or to influence other's emotions and decisions, which are more easily attributed to males.<sup>[16]</sup>

Literature reveals an established evidence for a strong association between EI and various personality traits.<sup>[17]</sup> Dawda and Hart reported a significant relationship between EI and all Big Five personality factors.<sup>[18]</sup> Day et al. reported in their study that there exists a high correlation between EI and extraversion and conscientiousness.<sup>[19]</sup> A study conducted by Avsec et al. revealed that EI is a predictor of the Big Five.<sup>[20]</sup>

## Method

### Objectives

- To measure the EI of the women leaders
- To measure the personality types of the women leaders
- To find out the relationship between EI and personality types of women leaders

### Hypothesis

The selection of hypothesis relies on the following notions.

H<sub>0</sub> = Personality and Emotional Intelligence of Women are not correlated

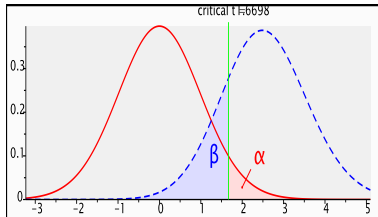
H<sub>1</sub> = Personality and Emotional Intelligence of Women are correlated

### 3.3 Sample

A sample of study conducted among 64 women leaders from Odisha consists of entrepreneurs, social leaders, organizational leaders etc. Since the sample was very much specific, other criteria like Age range, community, educational background etc are not considered. The sampling technique applied for drawing out the sample was convenience sampling. Researcher has set 5%  $\alpha$  value, as the maximum chance of incorrectly rejecting the H<sub>0</sub>. Since the researcher has set 0.20 as  $\beta$  value, the researcher is willing to accept 20% chance of missing an association



of the given population sample. Alternatively, researcher has set power value to 80% ( $1 - \beta$ ) which is the chance of finding an association of the population. Keeping in view the above value of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and power ( $p$ ), the sample size for this one tail test is 64. And the PSS graph is as below.



(Probability Sample Size (N)=64, considering  $\alpha$  error 0.05 and  $\beta$  error 0.20)

And the protocol power analysis value are as follows. (Source- G Power 3.1.9.2)

t tests - Correlation:		
Point biserial model		
Analysis: A priori:		
Compute required sample size		
Input: Tail(s)	=	One
Effect size $ p $	=	0.3
$\alpha$ err prob	=	0.05
Power ( $1 - \beta$ err prob)	=	0.80
Output: Non centrality parameter $\delta$	=	2.5158836
Critical t	=	1.6698042
Df	=	62
Total sample size	=	64
Actual power	=	0.8005036

(Critical-t is the standard error which is a measure of the error that we expect to find in the value obtained for the sample mean)

## Instruments

### Big Five Inventory

The most prevalent personality framework is the “**Big Five**” or the “**Five-factor model**” of personality. Not only does this theory of personality apply in multiple countries and cultures around the world (Schmitt et al., 2007), there is a valid and reliable assessment scale for measuring the five factors. The five factors grew out of decades of personality research, growing from the foundations of Cattell’s 16 factors and becoming the most accepted model of personality to date. This model not only confirms its validity as a theory of personality but also establishes its validity on an international level. These five factors do not provide completely exhaustive explanations of personality, but they are known as the “**Big Five**” because they encompass a large portion of personality-related terms. The five factors are not necessarily traits in and of themselves, but factors in which many related traits and characteristics fit. A popular acronym for the Big Five is “OCEAN.” The five factors are Openness to experience, Conscientiousness, extroversion, agreeableness & neuroticism. A self report 44 item questionnaire is used in a liker scale to measure the Personality of the respondents.

### Wongs Emotional Intelligence Scale (WEIS)

In 2002, Wong and Law developed a self-report EI scale named as the Wong and Law EI Scale (WLEIS) based on the work of Mayer and Salovey (1990). The WLEIS contains 16 items Likert-type self-report statements. Studies done by Karim (2010), Mulla et.al., (2008) and Kim and Agrusa (2011) provided evidence for the reliability and validity of the WLEIS scale. WEIS consists of two parts. The first part contains 20 scenarios and respondents have to choose one option that best reflects their reaction in each scenario. The second part contains 20 ability pairs and respondents are required to choose one out of





the two types of abilities that best represents their strengths. Wong's Emotional Intelligence Scale (WEIS) is a self-report EI measure, developed for Chinese respondent (Wong et al., 2007). Wong and Law (2002) explained that EI is an ability to understand ones own emotions and those of others and to control emotions in diverse situations and they suggested that EI consists of four dimensions : Others emotion appraisal (OEA), use of emotion (UOE), self-emotion appraisal (SEA), and regulation of emotion (ROE).

### Procedure

A convenient sample of 64 women leaders from Odisha were approached. The respondents were explained about the purpose of the study and their consent were taken for the study participation. They were affirmed that, all the information and identity will be kept confidential and will be utilized for the research purpose only. They were handed over the study questionnaire. Some respondents , those who were not 100% savvy with vernacular language in interpreting the questions, were handed over a translated version (Odia medium- a local language) questionnaire. And in most of the cases, the researched has to explain and clarify some of the questions which are having similar meanings to avoid confusion and bias. All the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire within 15-20 minutes in order to avoid manipulative answers about their personality factors. After completion of the questionnaire, each participant was thanked for cooperation and participation. The study data was tabulated further and analyzed with the help of SPSS version 23. In the present study, the researcher simply tried to measure the relationship between Emotional Intelligence and Personality of Women Leaders and how EI affect their Personalities.

### Results

The Table-1 & 2 shows the Cronbach's Alpha for WEIS and Five Factor Model. The

Cronbach alpha Value for all variables of BFFM and EI (WEIS) indicates that, all items are having high internal consistency and are suitable for the study population.

Table -1 : Cronbach coefficient Alpha value for internal consistency & Reliability Analysis (BFFM)

Variables	Cronbach alpha Value	No of items
Extraversion	0.730	8
Agreeableness	0.861	9
Conscientiousness	0.768	9
Neuroticism	0.763	8
Openness to experience	0.812	10

Table-2 :- Cronbach coefficient Alpha value for internal consistency & Reliability Analysis (EI)

Variables	Cronbach alpha Value	No of items
Self Emotion Appraisal	0.767	4
Others Emotion Appraisal	0.800	4
Use of Emotions	0.751	4
Regulating of Emotions	0.714	4



In SPSS, the researcher has performed canonical correlation using the manova command with the discrim option.

**Table-3** : EFFECT .. WITHIN CELLS  
Regression  
Univariate F-tests with (4,59) D. F.

Variable	Sq. Mul. R	Adj. R-sq.	Hypoth. MS	Error MS	F	Sig. of F
ff_mo	.25467	.20413	213.72409	42.40741	5.03978	.001
ff_mc	.14113	.08290	127.25850	52.50492	2.42374	.058
ff_me	.16407	.10739	250.25725	86.44542	2.89497	.030
ff_ma	.06358	.00009	127.80898	127.62895	1.00141	.414
ff_mn	.31574	.26935	315.05911	46.28966	6.80625	.000

**Table-3** indicates the F-test for each individual dependent variable (OCEAN), showing the Canonical Loadings for each of the dependent variables. In our case of research, all the dependent variables Openness (ff\_mo), Conscientiousness (ffm\_c), Extrovert (ffm\_e), Agreeableness (ffm\_a), Neuroticism (ffm\_n)

are strongly related to all the latent variables of Emotional Intelligence like Self Emotion Appraisal, Others Emotion Appraisal, Use of Emotions and Regulation of Emotions.

**Table-4** : Raw canonical coefficients for DEPENDENT variables Function No.

Variable	1	2	3	4
ff_mo	.04491	-.05533	-.00002	.05210
ff_mc	.07835	-.05909	-.03816	-.11773
ff_me	.04842	-.03192	.09435	-.02722
ff_ma	.05257	.02769	.03962	-.09034
ff_mn	.07757	.09966	-.04700	.00157

The traditional approach for interpreting canonical functions involves examining the sign and magnitude of the Standardized Canonical Coefficients assigned to each variable in its canonical variate. Variables with relatively larger standardized canonical coefficient contribute more to the variates. Similarly, variables whose standardized canonical coefficient have opposite signs exhibit an inverse relationship with each other and variables with standardized canonical coefficient of the same sign exhibit a direct relationship. In our Case of research, it is observed that, the raw canonical coefficients above are used to generate the canonical variates, represented by the columns (1 2 3 4) in the coefficient tables, for each set. They are

interpreted in a manner analogous to interpreting regression coefficients i.e., for the variable Openness, a one unit increase in Openness leads to a .04491 increase in the first canonical variate of the COVARIATE set (Self Emotion Appraisal) when all of the other variables are held constant.

### Conclusion

From the results of the analysis, it is clear that, personality and emotional intelligence are positively correlated among the women leaders of Odisha. The F-Test also clearly signifies that, all dependent variables (OCEAN) of Big Five Factor Model of personality are strongly related to the latent variables of Emotional Intelligence (SeA, OeA,



UoE, RoE). So, it can be concluded that, the Null Hypothesis is rejected and the alternate hypothesis is accepted.

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