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| Journal Name: | **[Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies](https://journalajess.com/index.php/AJESS)**  |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_AJESS\_139742** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **Exploring the Role of Psychological Well-being and Self-Esteem in Higher Education Students in West Bengal** |
| Type of the Article |  |

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| PART 1: Comments |
|  | Reviewer’s comment**Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | **Author’s Feedback** (It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | **This research tackles an important issue that many of us in psychology have been concerned about - understanding how college students are really doing mentally and emotionally. What makes this study particularly meaningful is how it looks beyond just the usual factors and digs into the real-life circumstances that shape these students' experiences - things like their family backgrounds, economic situations, and the social realities they navigate daily.****As someone who has worked with student populations, I find it refreshing to see research that takes into account the particular pressures that these students face, such as the very real financial struggles that many families in this region face and family expectations surrounding caste and social status. By concentrating on West Bengal in particular rather than drawing generalizations about "Indian students," the writers have accomplished something significant. More research with a cultural foundation is exactly what we need, particularly when attempting to create interventions that will truly benefit the students who need them the most. There can be substantial practical ramifications for counselling centers and universities, and this is a good start.** |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **The title is appropriate and clearly reflects the study's scope and objectives. It accurately captures the focus on psychological well-being and self-esteem among higher education students in West Bengal. No change needed.** |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | **The abstract is comprehensive and well-structured, covering all essential elements including background, methodology, key findings, and implications. However, it could benefit from:****Including specific sample demographics (age range, gender distribution)****Mentioning the specific statistical analyses conducted.** |  |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | **The manuscript is scientifically sound, and I would particularly commend the use of the scales used, they are extremely apt for this kind of study and demographic. Only suggestions I have are: Adding reliability coefficients, for example, Cronbach’s alpha for both the scales, and adding some more information on sampling procedure as well as potential selection bias.**  |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | **The reference list is solid and shows the author(s) have done their homework - they've included the foundational works one would expect (like Rosenberg's original self-esteem work and Ryff's well-being framework) alongside more recent studies, including some good culturally relevant research from Indian contexts. I'd love to see a few more recent meta-analyses on self-esteem and academic outcomes, and perhaps some additional cross-cultural validation studies for the instruments they used. The authors could also strengthen their work by including more recent research on mental health interventions in Indian higher education settings, but overall, the references adequately support their arguments and methodology.** |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | **The writing is generally clear and accessible, which I appreciate given that this research needs to reach both academic audiences and practitioners working directly with students. The author(s) communicate their ideas effectively and the manuscript flows well from section to section. That said, there are some areas where the language could be tightened up - I noticed a few instances where "cast" appears instead of "caste," and some of the longer sentences in the literature review could be broken down for better readability. The hypothesis numbering format is a bit inconsistent, and there's some repetitive language in the discussion that could be streamlined. These are really minor issues that don't interfere with understanding the research, but addressing them would polish the manuscript and make it even more professional.** |  |
| Optional/General comments | **This manuscript is timely, relevant, and well-executed. With some minor revisions, mainly related to polishing the language and expanding the abstract/statistical reporting, it would be suitable for publication.** |  |

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| **PART 2:**  |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?**  | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)* |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Aryan Malik, University of Delhi, India**