

Abstract

The current study investigates the determinants of altruism including religiosity, emotional intelligence and self-efficacy among university students. A cross-sectional research design was used. A sample of 300 (150 male, 150 female) students was recruited via convenient sampling technique. Their age ranged from 18 to 26 years. Indigenous Altruism Scale (Batool, Elahi & Tariq, 2017), Scale of Emotional Intelligence (Batool & Khalid, 2011), General Self-efficacy scale (Schwarzer & Jerusalem, 1995), and Short Muslim Practice and Belief Scale (AlMarri, Oei, & Al-Adawi, 2009) were used. The statistical analyses of the study variables showed significant positive relationships of altruism with religiosity, emotional intelligence and self-efficacy. Regression analysis revealed that 36% variance in altruism was accounted by self-efficacy, religiosity and emotional intelligence as the significant predictors of Altruism. Interpersonal skills, optimism and empathy (components of emotional intelligence) appeared as the salient predictors of altruism. Regression analysis indicated that these components accounted for 18% of variance in altruism. The demographic variables were also studied as it was of interest to investigate the role of gender, family system, province, birth order position and age difference in altruism among the university students. T-test and ANOVA were run to assess group differences. T-test indicated that males students are more altruistic than females students, $t(298)=5.02$, $**p<.001$, Punjab students are more altruistic than KPK students, $t(298)=2.32$, $*p<.05$, and students belonging to joint family system are more altruistic than students belonging to nuclear family system, $t(298)=7.35$, $**p<.001$. One-way ANOVA revealed that there was a statistically significant difference between birth order and altruism, $F(3,296)=7.22$, $**p<.001$, while there was no significant difference between different age groups and altruistic behavior,

$F(2, 297)=1.93, p=.15$. It was concluded that altruism is determined by religious beliefs and personal attributes (viz; emotional intelligence and general self-efficacy).