

**A PATH ANALYTIC STUDY OF THE EFFECT OF BIG FIVE
PERSONALITY TRAITS ON ASSERTIVENESS, BEING MEDIATED
BY SELF-ESTEEM AND SOCIAL ANXIETY, AMONG
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF MYANMAR INSTITUTE OF
THEOLOGY**

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Abstract: The present study investigated the direct and indirect effect of big five personality traits on assertive communication among undergraduate students in the Myanmar Institute of Theology (Liberal Arts Program) mediated by self-esteem and social anxiety. This quantitative research employed path analysis using survey questionnaires with 156 undergraduate students aged 21-29. The path analysis results indicated that students with high scores in extraversion and neuroticism traits had both direct and indirect effects on their level of assertiveness, mediated by self-esteem. Social anxiety could not predict this study's assertiveness, although it has a direct negative association with extraversion.

Keywords: Big Five Personality Traits; Assertiveness; Self-Esteem; Social Anxiety

Introduction

Personality is relatively permanent, determining one's reaction to events or life experiences. It is basically the instrument by which people can identify another individual and perform a response accordingly. Personality is what a person experiences within themselves and shows it to others to the outside world. The main features of personality are relatively stable; nevertheless, humans evolve and demonstrate new and impressive behaviors based on their experiences and skills. This naturally leads to adaptation and success

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