



Effects of Whatsapp use Among Ix and X Grade Students

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Abstract

This article investigates the profound impact of WhatsApp, a widely used social media platform, particularly among students. Commencing with a definition of social media as computer-mediated tools facilitating information sharing and expression in online communities. This real-time messaging app permits users to exchange unlimited messages, form groups, share multimedia, and connect globally. The literature review section synthesizes various studies examining WhatsApp's impact on academic settings, youth behaviour, and daily lives. While some studies underscore positive effects such as enhanced student attitudes and academic knowledge, others caution against potential drawbacks like procrastination and study disruptions. Objectives of the study pivot around investigating user socio-economic backgrounds, identifying factors influencing WhatsApp usage, and studying its effects on students. The research methodology employs a questionnaire-based survey among IX and X-grade students, revealing that most respondents (16-18 age group) prefer WhatsApp over other social media apps, primarily accessing it via mobile phones. Findings indicate that WhatsApp significantly contributes to connecting with friends and family, with 80% acknowledging its positive impact on academic knowledge. In conclusion, the article highlights WhatsApp's integration into users' lives, presenting a nuanced exploration of its multifaceted influence, from positive academic contributions to potential drawbacks in daily life and social responsibilities. The abstract encapsulates this comprehensive analysis, offering valuable insights for scholars and general

readers alike.

Keywords: WhatsApp, academic knowledge, student attitudes, mobile phones, social media apps, study disruptions, Information sharing.



1. INTRODUCTION

Social media is participatory computer-mediated tools that make it easier to share information, viewpoints, and other types of expression with others in online communities and networks. For the website or app, users can establish service-specific profiles that are built and updated via social media organizations. Typically, users use social networking sites through web-based technologies laptops and desktop computers, or they download apps for their mobile devices that have social media capability (e.g., smartphones and tablets). Users build extremely interactive platforms for sharing via which people, groups, and organisations can interact with these electronic services as they utilise them, co-create, discuss, and modify user-generated content or pre-made content.

WhatsApp started in the year 2009 on 24th February, with the tagline "Simple, Personal, Real-time messaging". It is a texting software for mobile devices that the users to communicate by word without paying for SMS. It is a text messaging alternative which is used with the help of a net connection through a data plan or Wi-Fi connection. Users can send unlimited number of message and receive message without any restrictions. They can also form groups with their family, friends, co-workers etc. They can closely connect with the people in abroad. Once we download the app all our contact list members will be a member in WhatsApp. You can also block the contact number which you do not wish to receive any message. If you don't wish to be a group, you can come out of that group through exist group. Apart from texting we can also send photos, videos, call through voice call and video etc.

WhatsApp is among the most popular chat app for smartphones. The user base of WhatsApp has gone beyond half a billion and still many new users install it daily on their devices. We all have WhatsApp on our phones and we prefer it to send text, photos, and videos to our friends and loved ones. After purchasing an iPhone in 2009, Koum got the notion to begin WhatsApp. When the iPhone app stores first launched in 2009, Koum noticed a brand-new sector of the app development market. Koum got the idea to build a hassle-free instant messaging app from the iPhone app store. The seeds for WhatsApp were planted in this place. Facebook purchased WhatsApp in 2014. It is both Facebook's greatest purchase to date and the largest in the technology sector. The WhatsApp team demanded \$16 billion when Facebook revealed plans to acquire the app in February 2014: Cash of \$4 billion and the remaining \$12 billion in Facebook shares. Later, Facebook made a \$19.6 billion payment. The original price of WhatsApp was increased by \$3.6 billion by Facebook as payment to WhatsApp staff for sticking with Facebook. Zuckerberg only used 10% of the market worth of business to acquire the text messaging service. Facebook offers to pay WhatsApp nearly twice as much as Google. Now, one thing that might come to mind is why WhatsApp was purchased by Facebook. The expansion of WhatsApp is the motivation for the largest purchase to date. Facebook saw the advantages of entering the mobile industry, the potential user base of WhatsApp, the importance of user engagement, and the possibilities of monetization, are other factors they might have thought about.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Levent Cetinkaya (2017) the goal of the study was to examine the effects of using WhatsApp in the classroom and ascertain students' attitudes regarding the procedure. According to the data, utilising WhatsApp to assist the traditional setting has a greater chance of increasing student achievement than using the other learning environments. For The study's qualitative component, content analysis techniques were employed to analyse the data which were collected by open-ended question forms. The investigation revealed that students' attitudes toward using WhatsApp in their classes have improved. Finally, it was suggested that WhatsApp be promoted as a helpful technology in the educational process.

Johnson Yeboah et al. (2014) conducted research to learn about WhatsApp's effects (application of social networking) messenger on the academic progress of youth and data were gathered from 550 students of territory institutions of Ghana. The result indicates that WhatsApp has a detrimental effect on the study of youth. It engendered procrastination-related problems, errors in spelling grammatical sentence structure, etc. As a result, using WhatsApp to balance internet activity and academic achievement is challenging.

Bhatt and M. Arshad (2016) determine WhatsApp's effects on youth. 100 sample of adolescents from Agra, India, were used to gather the data. Research shows that WhatsApp has positive as well as negative impacts on youth. It has an impact on their daily lives, behaviour, and education. It is highly addictive in nature. Findings show that youths a longer period on this application rather than spending quality their family time members.



Golam Rabbani Sarker (2015) attempted to study what WhatsApp Messenger has done with reference to the students of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur, Bangladesh in the year 2015. This empirical investigation has been carried out on 200 respondents with a questionnaire, which was used as a tool of data collection for the survey. The study has revealed that using WhatsApp negatively affects kids' ability to learn, their behaviour, and their daily lives. It disrupts a significant portion of students' study time and keeps them from finishing their homework. This application has received great marks for addiction. The research found that time management is essential for online activities. Students should give priority to their life and career building instead of giving priority to WhatsApp.

2.1. Research Gap

Whereas various studies have explored how WhatsApp affects academic performance, social behaviour, and the daily life of students of different age groups and nations, the majority of existing literature is devoted to students of university or college level. Little has also been done to the younger teens in secondary school especially at the IX and X grades, which are at a tender stage of academic growth as well as social identity. In addition, previous research will tend to extrapolate results without focusing on localized settings like small-town or regional schools whereby socio-economic status and cultural setting might influence technology utilization in a different way. The proposed research will address this gap by making a detailed, contextualized discussion of the WhatsApp usage among IX and X grade students in Nagaland Police Central School not only in terms of its impacts on their academic lives, but also in terms of its social and lifestyle consequences in one particular cultural context.

3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study's focus is on the subtle investigation of WhatsApp's effect on students in grades IX and X who are enrolled in Nagaland Police Central School in the Kohima District. The research attempts to give a contextualized view of how WhatsApp affects students' academic, social, and personal lives in the designated grades by focusing only on this specific school setting. The study includes an examination of the individuals' socioeconomic background with the goal of identifying any possible associations between demographic characteristics and WhatsApp usage habits. Furthermore, the study aims to pinpoint the precise characteristics of WhatsApp that impact students' usage of the app within this unique educational setting.

The study aims to investigate the extent of WhatsApp usage, the factors that drive its use, and the impact WhatsApp has on students' private lives as well as their social connections. The study aims to collect primary data from 30 chosen students via a structured questionnaire. Closed-ended questions will be used to obtain a thorough knowledge of the students' WhatsApp experiences. To acknowledge the distinctive dynamics within the Nagaland Police Central School in the Kohima District, this study takes an exploratory method. It is anticipated that the results will provide insightful information that can be applied to the school setting, providing a localized viewpoint on the larger conversation about how social media—especially WhatsApp—affects the social and academic experiences of students in grades IX and X. Therefore, the scope is narrowly focused on comprehending the subtleties of using WhatsApp in this educational setting.

4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This research is important because it offers a contextual explanation of the impact of WhatsApp use on the academic, social and personal lives of ix and x grades students in Kohima, Nagaland. Although the majority of all the existing studies concentrate on college and university students, this article brings to the fore the effects of the same on young adolescents, a life phase that is important to not only academic development, but also to social identity. These results enable teachers, parents, and policymakers to understand that, on the one hand, it positively influences academic knowledge and peer relationships; however, on the other hand, it can have some negative consequences, such as a change in lifestyle and a loss of interest in family and duties. The study provides local insights to contribute to the existing discourse by the author on the role of social media in education and youth development.

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the socio-economic background of the survey participants.
- To identify the features that influence respondents to use WhatsApp.
- To study WhatsApp's effects, it has on students.



6. METHODOLOGY

Research methodology is a method for methodically addressing the research problems. It can be viewed as a science that studies how scientific research is conducted. It includes the overall research design, the sampling procedure, data collection method and the analysis procedure. A form was developed with both close-ended and open-ended questions to assess the demographics of users, usage of WhatsApp options, intensity of usage, reasons of using, and impact on social and private life of users. This study examines the usage of WhatsApp and its effects mobile application among the IX and X grades students of Nagaland Police Central School, Kohima District. The idea behind this section is to reveal the rationale for the research methodology, the method and strategy adopted in collecting data for the research. The researcher uses a purposive sampling technique to collect a sample of 30 respondents through a questionnaire. The study is exploratory by nature as the researcher has explored the use and effects of WhatsApp on IX and X grades students of Nagaland Police Central School, Kohima District. The researcher made use of both primary & secondary data. For primary data, a structured questionnaire was employed to collect data from a sample of 30 students and for secondary data textbooks, journals/articles (both published & unpublished) and internet sites were used.

6.1. Sampling Method

With simple random sampling, every demographic segment has an equivalent possibility and likelihood of being chosen for the sample. Therefore, the choice of items is entirely determined by chance or probability, hence this sampling methodology is also occasionally referred to as a method of chance.

Sampling Size -30

Questionnaire method with close-ended questions.

7. ANALYSING AND INTERPRETING DATA

Socio-economic background of the survey participants

Attribute	No. of Respondents (30)	Percentage
Age		
13-15years	12	40%
16-18 years	18	60%
Above 18 years	-	-
Gender		
Male	13	43%
Female	17	57%
Class		
IX	14	45%
X	16	55%
Family Monthly Income		
Below 20,000	12	40%
20,000-40,000	13	43%
Above 40,000	5	17%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority of the respondents are included in age group of 16-18 years with 60%. This increased representation can be explained by the fact that the study area or the school takes place in rural environment where students in this age usually study in this grades. The study sample consisted of 30 students (13 (43) males and 17 (57) females) of IX and X grade. Their monthly family income is between 20,000-40,000 (43%).



➤ Which social messaging app do you use the most?

App. Name	Percentage (%)
WhatsApp	56%
Facebook	17%
Instagram	20%
YouTube	7%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

With 56% of the respondents, WhatsApp is the most used application. And Instagram is another most used with 20% of the respondents. The students do not prefer other sites at large. It seems WhatsApp is very much famous social messaging site for them.

➤ Which device do you prefer for using WhatsApp?

Device Name	Percentage (%)
Mobile Phones	93%
Tablets	7%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 93% of the respondents prefer Mobile Phones for using WhatsApp.

➤ Medium by which you come to know about WhatsApp?

Family	23%
Friends	33%
Advertisement	10%
Internet	17%
others	17%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 33% of the respondents came to know WhatsApp through their friends. As observation says effectiveness of advertisement is very less in comparison with other factors by which the respondents came to know WhatsApp.

➤ Do you like to be in touch with people by using WhatsApp?

Yes	53%
No	17%
May be	30%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Interestingly 53% of the responders prefer to communicate with the people using WhatsApp, which shows that the respondents are more comfortable using WhatsApp.

➤ Have you purchased an Android phone only because you can use WhatsApp?

Yes	10%
No	63%
May be	27%

Source : Primary Data



Interpretation:

The respondents have purchased an android phone not because they want to use WhatsApp but as observe 63%, majority of the respondent also have other reasons for purchsng an andriod phone.

- Do you use WhatsApp on an active basis?

Yes	23%
No	30%
Sometimes	47%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 47% of the respondent said that they use WhatsApp only time to time. Only 23.3% of the respondent use WhatsApp every single day whereas 30% doesn't like to use WhatsApp daily.

- What do you prefer while using WhatsApp?

Texting	60%
Audio call	0%
Video call	10%
Media transfer	17%
Updating status	13%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 60% of the respondents prefer texting rather than audio calling. Very few of them prefer video calling and updating status comapring with media transfer.

- Why are you using WhatsApp as a social media?

Its less expensive	13%
Its user friendly	20%
Good connectivity	27%
To connect with family and friends	40%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 40% of the respondents use WhatsApp to connect with friends and family. With only 20% very few of them use because its user friendly but as observe 27% of them use because of its good connectivity.

- How much time do you spend on WhatsApp in daily basis?

Less than 2 hrs	47%
2-4 hrs	20%
More than 4 hrs	33%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 47% of the respondents use WhatsApp less than 2 hrs, 33% of the respondents use WhatsApp for more than 4 hrs, whereas only 20% of them use for 2-4 hrs.

- Which features you would like to suggest in WhatsApp?

Text messaging quality	50%
Audio calling quality	4%
Video calling quality	13%
Privacy setting	33%

Source : Primary Data



Interpretation:

The majority 50% of the respondents are much concern about improvement the text messaging quality as the respondents wants good features while messaging.

- Do you think WhatsApp will be in the market for a long time?

Yes	43%
No	7%
May be	50%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 560% of the respondent have a neutral answer on whether WhatsApp will last for a longer period of time in the market.

- As a social messaging App, how you would rate WhatsApp?

Satisfied	50%
Very satisfied	20%
Neutral	30%
unSatisfied	0%
Very unsatisfied	0%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

As WharsApp is among the most used social sites now a days the majority of the respondent with 50% are satisfied and only 20% are very satisfied where 30% have neutral satisfaction using WhatsApp.

- For how long have you been using WhatsApp?

Less than 3 years	70%
3-6 years	30%
More than 6 years	0%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 70% of the respondents have been using WhatsApp for less than 3 years whereas only 30% have been using WhatsApp for 3-6 years. This shows that the respondents have more to explore using WhatsApp.

- What change did you notice on face-to-face interaction by using WhatsApp?

Face to face interaction increased	37%
Face to face interaction decreased	13%
No effect on face to face interaction	50%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 50% of the respondents did not notice any effcet on the face-to-face interaction while using WhatsApp. where 37% of the respondents they believed that face to face interaction increased, whereas only 13% of the respondents believe that it has decreased.

- What is your most preferable interaction medium with people?

Interaction on social media	40%
Face-to-face interaction	43%
Telephonic conversation	17%

Source : Primary Data



Interpretation:

Even when social networking sites are very popular these days, the majority 43% of respondents prefer to have face-to-face interaction instead of telephonic conversation or interaction on social media.

- What kind of people do you interact the most on WhatsApp?

Family and relatives	20%
Friends and classmates	63%
New people around	17%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

With 63% majority of the respondents prefer to communicate with friends and classmates when they use WhatsApp. Least 17% of them prefer to connect with new people around.

- Do you use WhatsApp while sitting with family members at home?

Yes	27%
No	20%
Sometimes	53%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

As observe, majority 53% of the respondents use WhatsApp only sometimes while sitting with family members at home, whereas 27% of them prefer to use it anyway and 20% of them prefer not to use while sitting with family members at home.

- Have you notice any change in your daily life style after using WhatsApp on a regular basis?

Yes	37%
No	10%
May be	53%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

Majority 53% of the respondents are not sure whether their life style have been effected on the course of using WhatsApp every single day but according to 37% of the respondents bvelieve that it has effected them in someway or the other.

- Is checking WhatsApp the first thing you do after you wake up in the morning?

Yes	40%
no	60%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

WhatsApp is not the first thought of the day as majority 60% of the respondent does not check WhatsApp right after they wake up.

- Do you feel that spending time on WhatsApp makes you detached from your family issues and social responsibilities?

Yes	27%
No	30%
May be	43%

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation:

The majority 43% of responders think WhatsApp have effected their life in one way or the other, but 30% of the respondents claims that using of WhatsApp have not detached them from their social responsibilities or family issues.

- Does WhatsApp help you in improving your academic knowledge?

Yes	80%
no	20%

Source : Primary Data



Interpretation:

As WhatsApp have become one of the prominent tool not only for connecting people but also for various other reasons, majority 80% based on responses from respondents WhatsApp have help them in improving their acedemic knowledge.

8. MAJOR FINDINGS

- ✚ Majority 60%, most of the respondents belong the age group 16-18.
- ✚ 43% of the respondents are male whereas 57% are females.
- ✚ 45% of the respondents are in IX standard whereas 55% are in X standard.
- ✚ 40% of the respondent's family monthly income is below 20000, 43% between 20000-40000 whereas 17% above 40000.
- ✚ Majority 56% of the respondents use WhatsApp the most.
- ✚ Majority 93% of the respondents prefer using WhatsApp rather than tablets.
- ✚ Majority 33% of the respondents came to know WhatsApp through their friends.
- ✚ Majority 53% of the responders prefer to be in touch with the people using WhatsApp.
- ✚ Majority 63% of the respondents did not purchase an Android phone only for using WhatsApp.
- ✚ Majority 47% of the respondents use WhatsApp only sometimes and not on a daily basis.
- ✚ Majority 60% of the respondents prefer texting while using WhatsApp.
- ✚ Majority 40% of the respondents use WhatsApp to connect with family and friends.
- ✚ Majority 47% of the respondents spend less than 2 hrs on WhatsApp in a daily basis.
- ✚ Majority 50% of the respondents wants extt messaging quality to be improved in WhatsApp.
- ✚ Majority 50% of the respondents are not sure whether WhatsApp will be in the market for a long time.
- ✚ Majority 50% of the respondents are satisfied using WhatsApp as a social messaging app.
- ✚ Majority 70% of the respondents have been using WhatsApp for less than 3 years.
- ✚ Majority 50% of the respondents does not see any changes on face-to-face interaction while using WhatsApp.
- ✚ Majority 40% of the respondents prefer interatcing on social media.
- ✚ Majority 63% of the respondents interact most with friends and classmates on WhartsApp.
- ✚ Majority 53% of the respondents use WhatsApp only sometimes while being with family.
- ✚ Majority 53% of the respondents feel that some changes were felt on daily life style after using WhatsApp on a regular basis.
- ✚ Majority 60% of the respondents does not check WhatsApp first thing after waking up in the morning.
- ✚ Majority 43% of the respondents have a mix feelings that spending time on WhatsApp made them detached from family issues and social responsibilities.
- ✚ Majority 80% of the respondents believe that WhatsApp has help in improving academic knowledge.

9. CONCLUSION

WhatsApp has ingrained itself firmly into peoples' lives. The respondents a longer period their mobile devices, particularly WhatsApp. Due to its ease of use and ability to connect with loved ones, WhatsApp is becoming more and more popular. According to 80% of respondents, students are utilising WhatsApp very efficiently because it has improved their academic understanding. Given that most respondents believe their lifestyles have changed and that they have become more detached from their families and social obligations because of using WhatsApp, it is obvious that there are moderate health difficulties among students. WhatsApp is useful in many ways, including keeping contacting with loved ones, particularly when they are far away from their place of residence. Even for those who experience social anxiety, it is incredibly beneficial. The easiest way to get it is to express their opinions. People who are disabled and unable to visit others' homes benefit from it as well. However, it has enabled them to face the outside world. Like how every invention has advantages and disadvantages in its own unique ways, WhatsApp also has a major disadvantage due to its extreme addictiveness. According to the study, students should place more value on their academics than they do on WhatsApp.



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