Construction and Standardization of Spiritual Experiences Scale (SES)

Zeynab Mohammad Alipour¹, Sayed Hadi Sayed Alitabar²*, Sara Bamdad³, Ali Zadeh Mohammadln⁴, Maede Sadat Etesami⁵

1. Ph.D Student, Counseling, Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran.
2. Ph.D Student, Career Counseling, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran.
3. Master of Psychology, Islamic Azad University, Khomeini shahr, Isfahan, Iran.
4. Associate Professor, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.
5. Master of Clinical Psychology, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran.

*Corresponding Author: Sayed Hadi Sayed Alitabar, Faculty of Psychology & Educational Sciences, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran
Email: h_alitabar@edu.ui.ac.ir

Received: 28 April 2016  Accepted: 30 June 2016  Published: 8 August 2016

How to cite this article:

Abstract

Background and Objective: Spirituality as a cultural fact is one of the principles that will affect many aspects of life. This research aims to build a scale to assess and evaluate the reliability and validity of spiritual experiences and its exploratory factor structure.

Materials and Methods: The research was a correlational study. The study population included all employees of the Shahid Beheshti University, including 220 participants (105 females and 115 males) with the stratified sampling and proportional allocation method and Cohen's d formula, were selected. The instrument was spiritual experience scale (SES). For assessing the internal validity of instrument correlation coefficient was used for each question and the total score categories. The exploratory factor analysis was conducted on the 25 items of the scale. internal consistency was evaluated by Cronbach's alpha and retest was used for concurrent validity.

Results: In the initial factor analysis, three factors were obtained with the particular value of greater than 1 and second factor analysis was limited to these three factors. Based on the content of the material three factors were named "personal relationship with God," "communication and perception beyond" and "the presence of God and receive spiritual support." The internal consistency of this scale was good (Cronbach's alpha, 93.0 and repeatability within ten days, 78.0). Conclusion: The study showed that the spiritual experience scale in Iranian society was valid and reliable. So self-report scale is a useful tool for research purposes.

Keywords: Spirituality; Standardization; Construction; Perception; Factor Analysis