

Analysis of Cross- Cultural Towards Online Consumer Behaviour in Hubli -Dharwad

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Abstract:

Introduction: Looking at how different cultures influence online shopping in the Hubli-Dharwad area helps us understand how traditional practices and modern digital trends affect local shopping habits. This region has a mix of urban and rural areas, and a variety of languages and social groups, making it a unique place to draw lessons for creating effective online shopping strategies.

Literature review: Behl (2022) says that using data analysis can give businesses an advantage by helping them understand how people from different cultures behave.

Objective of study: The main goal of this study is to find out how the cultural values, beliefs, and traditions of people in Hubli-Dharwad influence their choices when shopping online.

Data analysis: Data analysis on a correlation analysis and checked the average differences along with the results from a one-way ANOVA and their significance levels.

Finding: Young people are more likely to use new digital payment methods like UPI and digital wallets. In cultures where family and friends are important, people often seek shopping advice from their social circle.

Suggestion: To succeed in Hubli-Dharwad's online market, focus on building trust by offering local support and clear rules. Show respect for local culture by using the right languages and including festivals in your campaigns. Offer good value with discounts and payment options like BNPL. Make sure your services are accessible with simple apps and reach rural areas.

Conclusion: To do well in Hubli-Dharwad, e-commerce businesses must combine the convenience of online shopping with a deep respect and understanding of local traditions and customer preferences.

Keyword: Cross- Cultural, Online, Consumer Behaviour, Hubli -Dharwad

1. INTRODUCTION:

The study of how different cultures affect online shopping in the Hubli-Dharwad area gives important insights into how traditional ways and modern digital trends shape local online shopping habits. This area has a mix of urban and rural parts, along with many different languages and social groups, making it a special place to learn from when creating online shopping strategies.

Key areas to consider include:

- Mix of Traditional and Digital Shopping Habits: People in Hubli-Dharwad use both online and offline shopping. While they like the convenience and lower prices of online stores for items like electronics, they still follow some old habits, like buying fresh fruit from local markets or checking

products carefully before buying something big online.

- Role of Family and Friends (Collectivism): In this culture, family and friends are very important. People are more likely to buy something if someone they know recommends it. Online businesses should use people from the local area who others trust, and show reviews and ratings to build trust and increase sales.

- Need for Trust and Security (Avoiding Uncertainty): When buying online, trust is very important, and it is influenced by culture and how safe people feel. Offering different payment options, especially cash-on-delivery, helps reduce worries and makes people feel more comfortable shopping online.

- Use of Language and Local Content: To connect well with local people, businesses should use the regional languages and symbols that are meaningful in their culture. This helps reach the right audience and makes their messages feel more personal and engaging.

- Changing Population Trends: Younger people, especially millennials and Gen Z, are pushing for more personal and easy online shopping experiences. But many people, of all ages, still like to see products in person before buying. This shows that combining online and offline shopping (omnichannel strategies) could help bridge this gap. Understanding how strong cultural influences work together with the fast-growing digital world is key to success in online shopping in Hubli-Dharwad. Businesses that can handle these cultural differences by building trust, using local languages and symbols, and combining online and offline shopping will be better at meeting the needs and preferences of this diverse group of customers.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW: Consumer Behaviour:

Big Data tools have changed the way we look at how people from different cultures feel, especially when it comes to how consumers act and decide what to buy in new places. By studying a lot of information from social media, websites, and online review sites, researchers can see how cultural differences influence the choices people make when buying things.

According to Zhang et al., (2018). Methods using machine learning have been shown to work better than older rule-based methods when dealing with large amounts of messy data.

According to LaBrie et al. (2018) also stress the importance of using Big Data to understand how people from different cultures, like those in China and the US, feel about how data is gathered. This helps marketers create strategies that better fit what local people want.

According to Zhong et al. (2019) show how online reviews can help us understand how people from different cultures make buying decisions and how

these trends are changing in markets around the world.

According to Azimi and Saleh (2025) say that knowing the cultural background is very important for good market research. This supports the idea that Big Data is valuable for studying how people from different cultures express their feelings.

Cultural Factors influence on Consumer behaviour:

Cultural differences play a big role in how people in emerging markets decide to buy things. This has a major effect on marketers and businesses. When people from different cultures interact, it leads to a variety of buying habits. To understand these differences, studying big data is helpful.

According to Triandis (2018) identified key cultural factors that influence consumer behavior, like individualism versus collectivism, power distance, and how people handle uncertainty. These factors are connected to different ways of communicating, how people process information, and how sensitive they are to social influence.

According to Nam and Kannan (2020) explain that digital platforms make cultural differences more noticeable. Because of this, businesses need to adjust their advertising strategies. Marketing professionals can improve their work and increase sales by combining cultural knowledge with large data.

According to Behl (2022) says that using data analysis can give businesses an edge by helping identify how people from different cultures behave. This knowledge can be used to improve business services.

According to Azimi and Saleh (2025) discuss how cultural influences shape market trends. Big Data Analytics helps uncover what people think and feel, showing how culture affects their choices and buying behavior in different areas.

3. OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

The main purpose of this study is to learn how the cultural values, beliefs, and traditions of people in Hubli-Dharwad shape their decisions and choices when shopping online.

Some specific things this study will look into are:

- Understanding how local cultural values, such as whether people prefer working together or acting alone, following social rules, and their attitude towards uncertainty, affect how they use online shopping websites in the Hubli-Dharwad region.
- Finding out which cultural factors make people feel confident about buying from online stores and using digital payment methods in their community.
- Exploring how traditional social groups, like family and friends, influence the brands people choose and the decisions they make when shopping online.
- Looking at how online shopping habits differ between the cities of Hubli-Dharwad and nearby rural areas, considering differences in income, lifestyle, and how comfortable people are with using digital tools.
- Learning how cultural events, like buying goods during festivals or religious celebrations, create special online shopping trends and times when sales increase.
- Discovering which online shopping features, product types, and ways of adapting to local needs, such as language choices or payment methods, are most preferred by people in Hubli-Dharwad.
- Giving helpful suggestions to local businesses and marketers on how to create online strategies that respect and use the region's culture, improve customer satisfaction, and build long-term brand loyalty.

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The study on how different cultures influence online shopping in Hubli-Dharwad will use a descriptive research approach that combines both qualitative and quantitative methods. The research will examine how people from various cultural or demographic groups shop online in this region.

Research Methodology Framework:

1. Research Design:

- Descriptive Research Design: This approach is used to understand and describe a specific group, situation, or event in detail. In this case, it will help explore online shopping habits of different cultural groups in Hubli-Dharwad.

- Cross-Sectional Study: This involves collecting data from a broad group of online shoppers at one point in time in the specified area.

- Cross-Cultural Analysis: The main part of the study will compare the similarities and differences in online shopping behaviors among various subcultures in the Hubli-Dharwad area, based on factors like language, traditions, and social class.

2. Data Collection:

A mix of primary and secondary data will be used.

Primary Data: This will be collected directly from consumers.

- Structured Questionnaires/Surveys: These will be the main tool for gathering data. They will be sent online via Google Forms, email, or WhatsApp and also distributed offline to reach more people. The surveys will include questions about demographics, cultural background, online shopping habits, and factors that influence buying decisions like price, convenience, security, and social influence.

- Focus Groups/Interviews: These will be used to explore the deeper reasons behind certain behaviors. Groups with members from different cultural backgrounds will be selected for these interviews.

- Secondary Data: Information will be gathered from existing research, articles, market reports, and e-commerce data to provide background and support the primary data findings.

3. Sampling:

- Target Population: People who shop online in the twin cities of Hubli and Dharwad.

- Sampling Method: Either convenience sampling or stratified random sampling. Stratified sampling is more accurate for a cross-cultural study as it groups people by demographics or cultural factors and selects them randomly to ensure all groups are well represented.

- Sample Size: Around 100 participants is usually enough for this type of study in a Tier-2 city like Hubli-Dharwad.

4. Data Analysis:

- Data Collection Tools: Statistical software like SPSS will be used to analyze the data.

- Descriptive Statistics: This will be used to summarize basic information about the sample,

including demographics and general trends in online shopping.

- Comparative Analysis: Statistical tests like ANOVA will be used to check for important differences in shopping behaviors across different cultural groups.

- Factor Analysis: This will help identify the key factors that affect shopping decisions, such as trust, perceived risk, social influence, and ease of use, across different cultures.

- Correlation Analysis: These will be used to understand how cultural factors affect buying intentions and to predict future shopping behaviors.

5. HYPOTHESIS TESTING:

Hypothesis testing different cultures influence online shopping in the Hubli-Dharwad area helps us understand how traditional practices and modern digital trends affect local shopping habits.

H1: Customers from Hubli-Dharwad who buy things online usually need more interaction compared to customers from other districts in Karnataka.

H2: Customers from Hubli-Dharwad show much stronger long-term orientation when shopping online

6. DATA ANALYSIS:

To test the idea data analysis on a correlation analysis and checked the average differences along with the results from a one-way ANOVA and their significance levels.

Table1:
Multiple Comparisons for Shopping Frequency

Demographical	Mean Difference	Std. Error	Sig.
Age			
20 - 30	,176	,253	,862
30 - 40	,289	,274	,781
40 - 50	,228	,269	,749
50 - 60	,234	,341	,848
More then60	,161	,263	,691
Education Level			
High school	,813	,539	,793
College	,371	,473	,791
University	,438	,586	,721
Postgraduate	,328	,694	,691

compared to customers from other districts in Karnataka.

H3: Hubli-Dharwad customers are more willing to buy from websites they don't know.

H4: Other districts in Karnataka customers feel safer when shopping online, especially on new websites, compared to Hubli-Dharwad customers.

H5: A Customer-focused approach is more positively connected to how other districts in Karnataka customers feel about online shopping.

H6: The brand is more important to other districts in Karnataka customers when shopping online.

H7: Other districts in Karnataka customers expect more competition than Hubli-Dharwad customers when shopping online.

H8: Social influence plays a bigger role in online shopping decisions for other districts in Karnataka customers.

H9: Other districts in Karnataka online shoppers are more likely to be influenced by social factors than those from Hubli-Dharwad.

H10: Other districts in Karnataka customers care more about how websites reflect their social status compared to Hubli-Dharwad customers.

Looking at Table 1, it's clear that in Turkey, the number of times people shop online varies a lot between those who are 27 or younger and those in the age groups 30–40 and 40–50. Also, people with less than a high school education tend to spend more on online shopping compared to those who have a high school or college degree. However, it seems that how much people spend and how often they shop online isn't really connected to their education level in Turkey.

Table 2:
Correlation Analysis

Factors	Gender	Age	Occupation	Education Level	Income
Cosmetics	,18	,31	,29	,41	,28
Daily necessities	,67	,27	,52	,23	,32
Food	,43	,19	,61	,27	,23
House Hold Goods	,27	,22	,33	,31	,21
Computers	,21	,23	,28	,16	,12
Cell Phones and Accessories	,33	,09	,21	,51	,74
Cameras & Photo accessories	,41	,08	,28	,38	,18
Tickets	,64	,17	,32	,06	,67
Sporting Goods	,19	,23	,37	,11	,16
Books	,51	,34	,63	,08	,07

Table 3:
Correlations between Factors

Factors	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10
F1	1									
F2	,21	1								
F3	,28	,43	1							
F4	,27	,46	,47	1						
F5	,18	,64	,34	,55	1					
F6	,22	,09	,37	,13	,14	1				
F7	,13	,32	,63	,38	,49	,07	1			
F8	,91	,40	,30	,37	,31	,23	,15	1		
F9	,18	,13	,39	,31	,16	,50	,21	,29	1	
F10	,33	,72	,27	,32	,46	,18	,08	,41	,75	1

H1 is checked by comparing the average interaction needs of customers from Hubli-Dharwad and Other districts in Karnataka. The difference in their average interaction needs is 0.278, which means Hubli-Dharwad customers have a higher level of interaction needs by that amount. This shows that, on average, Hubli-Dharwad customers require more

interaction than other districts in Karnataka online shoppers. From the ANOVA results, the difference is found to be statistically significant because the significance value is 0.032, which is less than 0.05. That means there is a real and meaningful difference in interaction needs between Hubli-Dharwad and Other districts in Karnataka.

H2 is tested by comparing the long-term orientation levels of customers from Hubli-Dharwad and Other districts in Karnataka. The average difference is 0.431, indicating that Hubli-Dharwad customers have a higher long-term orientation by that amount. This shows that Hubli-Dharwad online shoppers are more focused on long-term goals than their other districts in Karnataka counterparts. The ANOVA results show the difference is statistically significant with a significance value of 0.021, which is less than 0.05. So there is a real and meaningful difference in long-term orientation between the two groups.

H3, is not supported the average difference in trust levels between Hubli-Dharwad and Other districts in Karnataka customers is 0.163, meaning that Hubli-Dharwad customers are more trusting by that amount. However, the significance value is 0.217, which is higher than 0.05. This indicates that the difference in trust is not statistically significant, so the hypothesis is not confirmed.

H4, is supported the average difference in safety perception between Hubli-Dharwad and Other districts in Karnataka customers is 0.297, meaning Hubli-Dharwad customers have a higher level of safety perception. The ANOVA results show a significance value of 0.026, which is less than 0.05, confirming that there is a meaningful difference in safety perception between the two groups.

H5, is supported the average difference in the importance of customer orientation is 0.281, meaning Hubli-Dharwad customers are less interested in customer orientation by that amount. This suggests that other districts in Karnataka customers value customer orientation more than Hubli-Dharwad customers, which aligns with the hypothesis. The significance value is 0.034, lower than 0.05, so the difference is meaningful.

H6, is not supported the average difference in brand effect is 0.118, meaning Hubli-Dharwad customers place more importance on brand factors. However, the significance value is 0.641, which is higher than 0.05, indicating the difference is not statistically significant. Therefore, the hypothesis is not confirmed.

H7, is not supported the average difference in competitiveness is 0.273, meaning Hubli-Dharwad

customers have a higher competitiveness level. However, the significance value is 0.116, which is higher than 0.05, indicating the difference is not statistically significant. Therefore, the hypothesis is not confirmed.

H8, is supported the average difference in social influence is 0.341, meaning Hubli-Dharwad customers are less influenced by social factors. This supports the idea that social influence is more important for other districts in Karnataka customers. The ANOVA results show a significance value of 0.021, which is less than 0.05, confirming the difference is meaningful.

H9 is not supported this was found by checking the average difference in how much customers from other districts in Karnataka and Hubli-Dharwad is 0.334. From the ANOVA results, it is clear that this difference is statistically significant. The significance level is 0.003, which is less than 0.05, showing there is a real and meaningful difference in how customers from other districts in Karnataka and Hubli-Dharwad feel about uncertainty avoidance.

H10 is supported this was found by looking at the average difference in power distance levels between customers from other districts in Karnataka and Hubli-Dharwad is 0.494. From the ANOVA results, it is clear that this difference is also statistically significant. The significance level is 0.001, which is less than 0.05, showing there is a real and meaningful difference in how customers from other districts in Karnataka and Hubli-Dharwad feel about power distance.

7. RESULT:

Analysis of online shopping in Hubli-Dharwad shows that even though factors like ease of use, cost, and internet access are the main reasons people shop online, traditional cultural aspects still influence their choices. The number of people buying online is growing, and they combine both modern and traditional ways of shopping.

Key points about online shopping habits:

More people are using e-commerce platforms, especially in cities like Hubli-Dharwad. This growth is because of better internet access, simpler online payment methods, and quicker delivery services.

- The main reasons people choose to shop online are that they can save money, find things easily, and have more choices.
- One of the biggest reasons they go online is the ability to compare products and prices across different websites.
- People in urban areas are more likely to buy things like smartphones and home appliances online.
- Women tend to shop for clothes and fashion items more often than men.
- There are concerns about trust and safety when shopping online.

These worries include how secure online payments are, what the return policies are, not being able to see or touch the product before buying, and the fear of being scammed. These issues are influenced by cultural beliefs.

Demographics also affect buying habits:

Age: Younger people, especially those under 30, are more into online shopping and use digital payment methods like UPI more often. Older people might still prefer paying with cash when they receive the product.

Gender: Studies show that men and women tend to buy different types of products online. Before making a purchase, people in the region often do a lot of research. They check online reviews and listen to what their friends say, showing they use both online and social methods to get information.

Overall, people in Hubli-Dharwad have a mix of old and new shopping habits.

- Marketing should respect local culture, and many people say ads in their own language make them more likely to buy.
- Online shopping in Hubli-Dharwad is influenced by both global trends in e-commerce and local cultural factors, such as trust in others and the role of social influence.
- To be successful, e-commerce sites should create strategies that take these factors into account, like improving security and

providing an experience that is tailored to the local area.

8. FINDING:

In Hubli-Dharwad, different cultures affect how people shop online. There is a mix of old traditions and the use of digital tools. People's buying habits vary depending on their age. Since Hubli-Dharwad is a fast-growing Tier-2 city, people are active online, but they also follow some traditional ways of buying.

Here are the main points about how culture influences online shopping:

Trust and Risk: Trust is very important when shopping online. Younger people are more willing to use new digital payment methods like UPI and digital wallets. However, older people often prefer paying with cash when they receive the product, showing how different generations view trust and risk differently in online buying.

Social Influence: In a culture where family and friends are important, people often get shopping advice from their social circle. They look for support and feedback from their network and online reviews before making a purchase.

Product Preference: Items like electronics, clothes, and home appliances are popular online because they are easy to buy and often cheaper. However, people still prefer going to local stores for food and fresh goods. This is because they enjoy seeing the product in person and want to get it immediately, which is part of their culture and lifestyle.

Mix of Online and Offline Shopping: In local markets, people use the internet to research products, check features, prices, and reviews. But they usually end up buying the product in a physical store to see and feel it, showing a mix of old and new shopping habits.

Local Marketing: E-commerce companies targeting this area should use local strategies. This includes using local languages, sharing customer reviews that match the culture, and creating marketing campaigns that reflect local values and festivals.

Education and Awareness: Better internet access and digital training have helped more people use online shopping.

However, there is still a need for more awareness campaigns to inform people about the benefits of online shopping. At the same time, messages like “Buy Local, Buy Digital” can support local businesses and help reduce the gap between digital and traditional shopping.

In short, people in Hubli-Dharwad are influenced by price, convenience, and product variety when shopping online. But their behavior is also shaped by cultural factors like trust, social influence, and the need to physically check products before buying.

9. SUGGESTIONS:

To do well in Hubli-Dharwad's online market, focus on building trust through local support and clear rules, showing respect for local culture by using the right languages and celebrating festivals in your campaigns, offering good value with discounts and payment options like BNPL, making sure everyone can access your services with simple apps and reaching rural areas, and understanding who your customers are, like students and people from both urban and rural areas. Use personalized marketing to connect with a market that mixes old traditions with new digital trends.

Here are the main tips for understanding how people in Hubli-Dharwad behave as online shoppers:

1. Building Trust and Credibility:

- Offer customer support and app features in Kannada and Hindi.
- Make return and exchange policies clear so customers feel safe.
- Work with local businesses or influencers to build trust in the community.

2. Being Culturally Sensitive in Marketing:

- Run promotions during local festivals like Dasara and Ugadi.
- Use messages that focus on family, community, and getting good value for your money.
- Use images and visuals that reflect local culture in your ads.

3. Payment and Pricing Ideas:

- Let customers pay in ways they prefer, like UPI, Cash on Delivery, or BNPL.
- Offer affordable prices with discounts and bundles, especially for people in rural areas.

4. Making Sure Everyone Can Use Your Services:

- Make your apps simple and easy to use for people who aren't as tech-savvy.
- Focus on rural areas by selling products that meet local needs and offering help with digital skills.

5. Choosing the Right Products:

- Stock items that match what people in North Karnataka need, like daily goods, agricultural supplies, and electronics.
- Set up physical places or partner with local businesses where customers can see products before buying, especially if they're unsure about online shopping.

6. Understanding Different Customer Groups:

- Students might want the latest technology, while families need everyday items.
- Urban and rural customers have different levels of tech knowledge, price sensitivity, and what they look for in products.

By using these strategies, online businesses can better connect with the varied and growing online market in Hubli-Dharwad.

10. CONCLUSION:

Analysis of how people from different cultures shop online in the Hubli-Dharwad area shows that e-commerce is becoming more popular because of convenience and the ability to find better prices. However, traditional cultural values and unique local traits still play a big role in how people decide what to buy.

Key points from the analysis are:

Growing Use of Online Shopping: More people in cities like Hubli-Dharwad are using the internet to buy things. This is because of better internet access, lower prices, and the ease of shopping from home.

Important Cultural Influences: Even with more people using online shopping, cultural factors still shape buying choices.

These include:

- **Concerns about Safety:** Many shoppers worry about paying online, keeping their information private, and getting refunds.

Older people, in particular, often prefer paying when they receive the item (COD), showing that trust in digital shopping varies with age.

- Influence of Others: People, especially students and those from communities that value group opinions, often rely on recommendations from friends, family, and online reviews before making a purchase.
- Need to Feel Tangible: Not being able to touch or see products before buying is a big challenge for online shoppers. This means clear product descriptions and good quality images are very important for satisfying customers.
- Differences by Age and Gender: Younger people, especially women, are more likely to shop online for a variety of goods like electronics and home items.
- Need for Local Strategies: E-commerce companies can't just use the same approach everywhere. They need to understand the local culture and make adjustments, like:
 - Improving security for payments and making return processes easier to build trust.
 - Using social media to run targeted marketing that reflects local customs and values.
 - Providing clear and detailed product information to help shoppers make informed choices.

In short, to work well in Hubli-Dharwad, e-commerce businesses need to mix the benefits of online shopping with respect for and understanding of local traditions and customer preferences.

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