

A Holistic View about Intelligence in Theoretical Perspective

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Abstract

‘Intelligence is a aggregate and global capacity of the Individual to act purposefully, to think rationally and to deal effectively with his environment.’

– David Wechsler

Intelligence is an abstract capacity, therefore it is very difficult to define. Psychology as a science study human intelligence and made so many generalizations about the meaning and nature of the Intelligence. A number of theories have been introduced in psychology to explain the concept of Intelligence. Theories of Intelligence can be divided into two parts – Splitters, Lumpers and Intelligence as a process. Present article analyze the theories and synthesize in a noble pattern to understand Intelligence. All the theories of Intelligence emphasized on a particular aspect or a process. So present theories are not enable to draw a clear picture of intelligence. This is a original and conceptual framework of interrelations of theories of intelligence to manifest a holistic meaning of intelligence.

Key words : Intelligence, Theories of Intelligence, Splitters, Lumpers, Information Processing Theories.

Aims of the Study

The present article investigates the Holistic view about Intelligence as a theoretical construct. This article will explain intelligence as a global capacity which determine our cognitive, affective and Psych-Motor aspects of personality. Unidimensional processing of intelligence will also be described in this article.

Introduction

Intelligence has been outlined in many ways : higher level talents (Such as abstract reasoning, mental representation, drawback resolution and call making) the power to learn, emotional knowledge, ability and adaptation to fulfill the strain of the atmosphere effectively. Scientist parliamentarian Sternberg defined intelligence as “the mental abilities necessary for adaptation to additionally as shaping and choice of any environmental context. The theories of Intelligence are sorted into four major classes: psychological science theories, psychological feature theories, psychological feature discourse theories and Biological theories. Psychological science theories drive from finding out individual distinction in take a look at performance on cognitive tests. Questions on the structure of human intelligence, embody the importance of general intelligence have dominated the psychological science theories. psychological feature theories drive from finding out the processes concerned in intelligence performance. These processes vary from the method straightforward (eg. examination time) to the fairly complicated (eg. operating memory). completely different theories have centered on different processes. psychological feature discourse theories emphasized processes that demonstrate intelligence inside a selected context (Such as cultural, environmental), major theories include Sternberg’s Triarchic Theory, Gardner’s Theory of Multiple Intelligence, and Piaget theory of development. Biological theories emphasized the link between intelligence and therefore the brain and its functions. However none of those theory elaborate a close theory of neuroscience of intelligence.

Psychometric theories interpret intelligence as the score on the intelligence tests. This category of theories includes – Spearman’s two factor theory, Bond theory, Primary mental ability theory, British hierarchical model of intelligence, Fluid and crystallized ability, three stratum factors analytic theory of cognitive abilities, structure of intellect theory. These all theories explain intelligence as an ability which is divided in the factors (such as General intelligence and specific intelligence, common factors). These factors find out with the help of factor analysis method of statistics.



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Cognitive theories emphasized on the information processing in the mind (specially new information to old information), Simple sensory testing theory, Inspection time theory, Simple choice reaction time theory, working memory cognitive correlate cognitive component, Processing speed and arguing theory. These type of theories focused on the information processing in memory specifically working memory.

Cognitive contextual category of theories about intelligence includes – Triarchic theory of Intelligence, Multiple intelligence theory, Piaget stage theory of development. These theory follow constructivist approach to define intelligence. Intelligence is a product of Person and environmental interactions.

Biological perspective of intelligence theories emphasized on the Biology / Neural activities to explain intelligence. This perspective includes – Prime size and Intelligence theory, E.E.G. String Length Theory, Glucose – Metabolic Rate and Intelligence, Jensen Neutral Oscillation Model of Intelligence.

What is the actual meaning of Intelligence? It is a big question for contemporary psychologists. A number of theories has been propounded by Psychologists but none of the theory is enable to explain the complete meaning of the Intelligence. All the theories explains the partial meaning of Intelligence. Intelligence is one capacity or it is a bunch of capacity. It is a factor of mental processes or it is process of Neural activities. These are the big questions which are unanswered till now. Now a days, multiple intelligence theory of Howard Gardner and triarchic theory of Sternberg are very popular. But both of theory have its own limitations.

Foundation Theories of Intelligence

Two Factor Theory

Charles Spearman was an English Psychologist who propounded two factor theory, based on factor analysis method. It was the first theory which prepared ground for so many theories. According to Spearman, intellectual abilities comprised of two factors namely the general ability 'g' and specific ability 's'. Some other Psychologists published research which present a other view then Spearman. L.L. Thurstone tested 56 different abilities, Howard Gardner recognize light intelligence, Robert Sternberg classify in three categories, analytical, creative and practical intelligence. Thomson, G.H. (1916) wrote in his research paper 'A hierarchy without a general factor' that there are no specific evidence about general intelligence in his research.

Primary Mental Ability Theory

Louis LionThurston proposed a theory in 1930 known as theory of Primary Mental Ability. This theory also based on factor analysis. Thurston found that there are more than two type's of Intelligence (as proposed by Spearman). There are seven primary ability in Thurston's theory e.g. Verbal comprehension, Word fluency, Number facility, Special visualization, Associative memory, Perceptual speed and Reasoning.

Cattle-Horn Carrol (CHC) Theory

Cattle concluded that there are two major clusters of mental abilities termed of 'fluid' and

'crystallized' intelligence. Fluid intelligence refers to our inherited abilities to think and reason. It is just like Hardware of our mind which determine the limits of information processing capabilities. On the other hand, crystallized intelligence refers to accumulated knowledge to apply skills and knowledge to solving specific problems. In general the crystallized intelligence is the outcome of experience acting on our fluid intelligence. Fluid intelligence seems to decrease slowly with age but crystallized intelligence stay level or even increase.

Pass Theory of Intelligence

The Planning, attention, simultaneous and successive cognitive processes model developed by J.P. Das and others. This theory include four kind of competencies :

1. Planning : It involves in making decisions about how to solve a problem.
2. Attention or Arousal is the process that allows a person to selectively attend to some information and maintaining negligence.
3. Simultaneous processing integrates stimulus into groups.
4. Successive processing includes integrating stimuli in a specific order.

All four processes must be active in the context of an individuals knowledge base. This model has implication for understanding various cognitive processes.

Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligence

Gardner believes that different factors of intelligence are the different aspect of intelligence. Gardner's theory listed seven different kinds of frame of Intelligence. He added one later. The eight frame of intelligence are : Verbal skills, Mathematical skills, Spatial, Body kinesthetic skills, Musical skills, Intrapersonal skills, Interpersonal skills and Naturalistic skills.

1. Verbal Skills : The ability to think in words and to use language to express meaning.
2. Mathematical Skills ; The ability to carry out mathematical operations.
3. Spatial Skills : The ability to think three dimensionally (architects, artists, sailors).
4. Musical Skills : A sensitivity to pitch, melody, rhythm and tone.
5. Intrapersonal Skills : The ability to understand oneself and effectively direct one's life.
6. Interpersonal Skills : The ability to understand and effectively interact with others.
7. Naturalistic Skills

Sternberg Triarchic Theory

This theory of Intelligence based on the information processing approach. It asserts that there are three basic type of Intelligence : Componential, Experiential and Contextual. First componential or Analytical Intelligence involves in the ability to think critically, and analytically. Second experiential or creative intelligence emphasized on the formulation of new ideas. The third type of intelligence is called contextual or practical intelligence. The people high in this type of intelligence are adapt at solving the problems of everyday life.

Theoretical propositions given by various psychologist from Spearman to Howard Gardner are not abide to explain the valid meaning of the intelligence.

It is interesting that of all the different type of human intelligence that have been identified only. Zohar and Marshall's S.Q. incorporate of holism. It is surprising that a little attempt has been made to identify a generic or underlying intelligence or knowing Human being of course have innate holistic intelligence, we are probably the only self-regulatory entities on the planate that suppress and interfere with its natural expressions and development. Holistic intelligence in human involves the integrative and synergic functioning of the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and social faculties. All the attributes described in IQ, EQ and SQ, Kinesthetic and interpersonal intelligence and many more including extra sensory capacities are inherent in holistic intelligence. Activities ranging from basic instincts to great aesthetic works are the manifestation of human holistic intelligence while the context of expression may very greatly what seems common to all such manifestation is a whole person involvement in which the mind, body, feelings and spirit, the idea, the experience and the meaning become one. Holistic Intelligence can be viewed in many ways :

1. The intelligence of the whole reality associated with the idea like the wisdom of nature.
2. Transcendent intelligence that shapes reality associate with ideas like intelligence design.
3. the evolutionary impulses and dynamics used by any all to sustain and transform and their state of any of all of these frames can usefully describe what Holistic intelligence is all about.

Holistic intelligence arises from the holistic, interconnected and co-creative nature of reality itself, such that event is one part of reality impact other part of reality, driving the evolution of both of part and the whole. Holistic intelligence have specially focused on the dynamics that occurs as various forms of wholeness are disrupted by various form of disturbance and then return to the forms state of wholeness or to progress to a new form of wholeness.

1. Holistic intelligence involves evolutionary dynamics that we find in all domains and at all levels. Co-intelligence is a substance of Holistic intelligence focuses on the human manifestation of that dynamics and our conscious use of it. In this dynamics there is a tendency to any living or life like system, when disturbed. It seeks to reestablish of transformation into something new that has more utility and integrity under the circumstances. When we are in human groups and organizations we find problems then we calling solutions and resolutions. In both cases we observe impulses for healthy integrity which all manifests of life wholeness after disturbance.
2. Wholeness move from one state of wholeness, through dissonance, dynamic, tensions and interactive, co-creative processes to other state of wholeness. This dynamics unfolds at every scale in every facet of reality, generating ever new

forms of health and integrity within things and fitness among things. So wholeness of reality and everything in it is always evolving, always in a process. There is a certain rhythm to that and certain dynamics involved that can be viewed as creatively intelligent in the sense of an ongoing redesigning of the way things fit together. This process from wholeness to unwholeness, this intelligence of involving wholeness that can be called Holistic Intelligence.

Principles of Holistic Intelligence :

1. Holistic intelligence is not a characteristic of a person but it is a reality itself. It reflects in life naturally as well as within, among and around all entities including people and social units.
2. Holistic intelligence manifests as the tendency to generate congruence, coherence, fitness, healing, balance and harmony within among around and beyond the entities involved.
3. The creation of congruence, coherence, fitness, harmony, treating and balance and other forms of wholeness in one part of reality usually generates some from of disturbance in another part of reality whereof on, Holistic intelligence is evoked in that realms as well.
4. Holistic intelligence as well as its human manifestation, co-intelligence deals with any disturbance by seeking new or renewed wholeness. This can manifests within the situation or system being considered e.g. through heating and transformation. It also operates at higher and or lower side, such as when and entity dies and its components are distributed at a lower scale of the system it occupied, to be utilized by other entities in way that sustain their health and the health of the system that includes all such entities.
5. Holistic intelligence intrinsically involves every thing and every one connected to a situation to the extent they are related to that situation since all such entities are involved in the co-creation in the co-evolution of the situation in the first place, they almost always continue to participate in the unfolding dynamic of Holistic intelligence in the situation.
6. The wholeness of the reality is characterized by all the ways everything fit into a coherent whole. The wholeness seeking dynamics that are evoked in the presence of disturbance make even disturbances part of the overall wholesome dynamics that characterize Holistic intelligence through the dynamics of disturbance and renewed wholeness in the among entities the structure of the fit that characterize the whole of reality.
7. The different kind of wholeness very in dependently. For example completeness, health, environment fit, wisdom coherence etc. can each be present when some of the other are not, or at least not be present to the same extent or in the same way. Reality continually tells us what we need to pay attention to in order to participate in

the wholeness generating enterprise of holistic intelligence.

8. Holistic intelligence can be viewed in the way that includes and transcendent all these dynamics as the intelligence of the whole of reality or as transcendent intelligence that shape reality. However within the field of co-intelligence. Holistic intelligence is most usefully viewed through the dynamics given above.

Holistic view of intelligence emerging due to the variety of the conception of intelligence in Psychology. There are several group of Psychologists who emphasized on the conception intelligence as a factors (one or more) again divided into Lumpfers and Splitters. Some Psychologists describe intelligence as a process. This article made an attempt to synthesize the all partial description. This concept of Holistic intelligence. According to this approach intelligence can be described as "A Regulatory Psycho-neurotic process which govern, control and manage our cognitive, affective and behavioural activities according to the demand of environment." This approach is new in Western Psychology, but Indian psychological view point intelligence can be defined as a source characteristics of consciousness. Human consciousness connect human being to the environment and govern and execute psychological and behavioural activities. It is a demand of time that we have to understand the Holistic Nature of intelligence and human consciousness.

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