Assessment of Association between the Indian Epic "Ramayana" and International Relations

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Abstract

Recently, international relations have become crucial for the country's survival in this uncertain environment. This aspect necessitates the attention of new researchers and regulators. In light of this, the present study investigates the influence of the Indian epic "Ramayana" on morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, cultural attraction in India, and their role in international relations. In addition, the research explores the mediating effect of morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction on Indian Epic and international relations. Using survey questionnaires, the researchers collected data from students majoring in philology at universities in Vietnam. The researchers also utilized SPSS-AMOS to examine the relationship between the variables under investigation. The results revealed that the Indian Epic has a positive relationship with morality teachings, responsibility awareness, and cultural appeal and that these factors have a positive relationship with international relations. In addition, the results revealed that morality teachings, responsibility awareness, and cultural attraction substantially mediate the relationship between the Indian Epic and international relations. The research assists policymakers in formulating regulations for enhancing international relations through moral instruction, responsibility consciousness, and cultural appeal.

Introduction

The creation of rapid linkages between individuals, economic institutions, and governments has made the development of international relations extremely significant. Historically, it has been limited to forming international agreements (Turaev, 2020). In the modern era, establishing international relations is crucial for various reasons. If international relations are harmonious, it is easier to implement effective trade policies. These international relations facilitate business entities, government authorities, and immigrants by promoting transportation practices. Therefore, sound international relations give rise to numerous employment opportunities for individuals, allowing them to learn more, earn a living, enjoy leisure, and ensure convenience in multiple spheres (Sobirov, 2020). The stability of international relations over time encourages nations to cooperate, share information, and gain access to more significant resources. It proposes a solution to manage global issues spreading across regions, such as epidemics, financial distress, environmental concerns, and terrorism, all of which require global attention. In addition, it serves humanity and human behavior by exchanging behaviors, ideas, traditions, diplomacy, and policy formation (Haynes, 2021).

As one of the original centers of Asian civilization and one of the world's largest and oldest civilizations, India's soft power is naturally prevalent throughout the globe. The Indian epic is regarded as a source of soft power, the link between the world and Indian culture, which aids in
expanding Indian culture's influence in other nations (Thi Bich Thuy, 2019). The Indian epic "Ramayana" profoundly affects those who listen to or read the epic poem. Some impacts of the Ramayana include morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction. Morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction to the nation’s children and people from beyond its borders clear their thinking, improve their behaviors, and foster good international relations (Sen & Sarabhai, 2020).

India has a long cultural history and is one of the cradles of human civilization. Indian literature holds a unique position in world literature's ongoing movement and development. It is one of the works of literature with a long history spanning thousands of years and unique accomplishments, which has become the spiritual heritage of humanity. Notably, Indian epics are regarded as a source of soft power, the link between the world and Indian culture, allowing Indian culture to extend its influence in neighboring nations and Southeast Asia. Asia is the region most severely and visibly afflicted. This study makes a substantial contribution to the existing body of knowledge. First, the researchers analyzed the function of the Indian epic "Ramayana" in moral instruction, a sense of responsibility, and cultural attraction. But does it merely regard the morality lessons, sense of responsibility, and cultural appeal as outcomes of the Indian epic "Ramayana"? This article provides a detailed analysis of the contribution of the Indian epic "Ramayana" to morality teachings, a sense of responsibility, and cultural allure to the literature. Second, research has been conducted on the direct relationship between morality teachings, responsibility awareness, cultural attraction, and international relations.

In contrast, the current study examines the role of morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction as mediators between the Indian epic "Ramayana" and international relations. Therefore, it contributes to literature. Thirdly, the study examines how international relations can be strengthened for the Indian economy by using a national epic as an exception in literature.

The culture of the Indians is enigmatic, vast, and profoundly human. That culture comprises three interconnected and organic elements: religion, philosophy, and art. India's religions comprise philosophical concepts and govern the nation's culture, art, and "reading" of written literature. Traditional Indian literature is the artistic expression of Hinduism’s beliefs and teachings. In traditional Indian literature, epics reflect the ideological life of the people through the armed conflicts between the ethnicities residing on Indian soil and the kingdoms. At the same time, they are also melodies praising the heroic deeds and virtuous character of the Indian people's admired and revered heroes. Hinduism's Dharma teachings became the social and moral norm for most Indians, exemplified by the epic "Ramayana". The paper contains the following
sections: Considering previous literature, the first section analyzes the relationship between the Indian epic "Ramayana," morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, cultural attraction, and international relations. The second section of the paper concisely describes the methods used to collect and analyze data to test hypotheses. After locating research outcomes, these are matched with articles of a similar nature to validate the research arguments. The study's implications, limitations, and conclusion follow the discussion of the results.

Literature Review

The development and vigor of international relations are essential to a nation's government and citizens. These relationships benefit a nation in various social, economic, political, security, and law contexts. Sound international relations help mitigate unforeseen risks and pave the way for achieving objectives in these areas, thereby ensuring the well-being of people. Davis et al. (2002) asserts that if a nation can establish amicable, sound, and influential international relations, it can achieve its objectives of social prosperity, economic development, political stability, security, and effective legislation. The Indian epic "Ramayana" is a detailed account of Rama's mission to rescue his wife from the great antagonist Ravana. It teaches morality, instills a sense of personal responsibility, and creates cultural appeal. These outcomes of the Indian epic "Ramayana" enhance the relationship between natives and foreigners (Pallathadka et al., 2022).

Several authors have recorded divergent perspectives on the relationship between the Indian epic "Ramayana," morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, cultural attraction, and international relations. This article examines previous research to formulate hypotheses regarding the relationship between the Indian epic "Ramayana," morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, cultural attraction, and international relations.

Indian Epic and Morality Teachings

The Indian epic "Ramayana" centers on Rama's voyage to free his wife, Sita, from Ravana's prison. Throughout this voyage, Prince Rama faced numerous obstacles and challenges, interacting with several individuals who must all make decisions. The inclination of Rama and his companions toward virtue exemplifies life's moral values and encourages the audience to learn and practice these moral teachings. So, the Indian epic "Ramayana" has moral teachings (Johari, 2023). Rachmawati (2020) investigates the role of the Indian epic "Ramayana" in moral instruction by depicting Rama and his companions' lives. In educational institutions where portions of the Indian epic "Ramayana" are incorporated into the curriculum, students are taught to distinguish between right and evil. Therefore, Indian epic studies instruct audiences from various societies' morality. The authors of the Indian epic "Ramayana" hid a moral in the narrative of Rama's efforts and Sita's safety, according to Bhide et al. The
A study suggests that if the Indian epic "Ramayana" is narrated in classrooms, it demonstrates the moral values followed by characters such as Rama, Lakmana, and Hanuman, thereby instructing the audience in morality. It can therefore be hypothesized:

H1: Indian epic has a positive association with morality teachings.

**Indian Epic and Responsibility Consciousness**

Through the imagery of Rama, the Indian epic "Ramayana" reveals to the audience the duties and responsibilities imposed on them and prepares their hearts to embrace them. Thus, the Indian epic cultivates a sense of responsibility (Prakash, 2023). Lutgendorf (2022) authored an article investigating the effects of the Indian epic "Ramayana" on responsibility consciousness in readers and audiences. The authors of this article believe that the Indian epic "Ramayana" contains a traditional myth of the Dharma Buddha (righteous war) fought between the great Hindu monarch Sri Rama, the god Vishnu, and Ravana. This is a battle between good and evil, describing a man's responsibilities towards others in various positions and the significance of fulfilling those responsibilities for his salvation. Therefore, this epic instills a sense of responsibility in those who read or listen to it. V. Singh (2022) investigates the significance of the Indian epic "Ramayana" and its function in fostering a sense of responsibility. The study describes how the Indian epic "Ramayana" exposes the responsibilities of a man as a human in various positions based on specific relationships and interactions with nature. It generates consciousness from within to meet obligations. Based on the preceding discourse, we can establish the following hypothesis:

H2: Indian epic has a positive association with responsibility consciousness.

**Indian Epic and Cultural Attraction**

The Indian epic "Ramayana" depicts Indian society in its entirety. It provides information about people's way of life, religion, clothing, house structures, art, paintings, and cuisine. It represents the Indian culture's freedom, relief, righteousness, and entertainment. Even though individuals do not adhere to Indian culture, they are drawn to its traditions, rituals, and celebrations. The Indian epic strengthens the connection between Indians and their culture and attracts foreigners. Therefore, the Indian epic "Ramayana" contributes positively to a cultural attraction (Srivastava et al., 2022). Sedana and Foley (2020) illuminate the connection between the Indian epic "Ramayana" and cultural attraction. The study hypothesizes that Indian society has a culture with various hues. The famous Indian epic poem about Rama's mission to free Sita from Ravana's clutches paints a complete picture of fundamental
Indian culture in all its nuances. Reading this Indian epic by individuals of diverse cultures fosters cultural attraction.

Additionally, Majidi (2020) investigates the function of the Indian epic "Ramayana" in cultural attraction. For decades, the epic Ramayana has been extensively disseminated in various forms. This epic must be the starting point for any study of Indian culture and literature because it is a unique literary work of India and a vibrant culture, revealing the distinctive characteristics of Indian thought, ideology, personality, and "Indian spirit."

H3: Indian epic has a positive association with cultural attraction.

The Role of Morality Teachings between Indian Epic and International Relations

The epics profoundly reflect the religious teachings of India's numerous religions. The Indian people regard the Indian epics as a "textbook" of the nation's ethics and morality due to the boldness of their teachings and rituals. The epic Ramayana is a work that not only extols the deeds and virtues of the martyr Rama and the unwavering love of Sita but also upholds moral principles and human responsibility and instructs children. Those who engage in virtuous deeds in opposition to evil adhere to the principles of justice and charity. (Pal, 2021). V. K. Singh identifies the connection between the Indian epic "Ramayana," morality teachings, and international relations in his 2021 work. The study hypothesizes that after reading the Indian epic "Ramayana," readers have the opportunity to learn about moral values and improve their reasoning skills. The content knowledge contained in each aspect of the art of organizing works is the way of life, morality, behavioral relations between classes and castes in Indian society, and the responsibility of the people. The duties, responsibilities, and obligations of people according to Dharma teachings, the rules in the relationship between the monarch and myself, father and son, wife and husband, and brother and brother, is the philosophy of life and death, is the universal perspective of Indian religion. To maintain order in the kingdom, the hero of the Indian epic is praised for his moral fortitude, altruism, sense of honor, duty consciousness, willingness to sacrifice personal pleasure, and devotion to duty. These are the ideal monarchs according to Hinduism's concept.

If the river is not dry, the ancient Indians regarded this epic as the Bible to save the soul and urged people to read and recite it daily to sustain their souls. If the stone has not been worn away, the Ramayana is still passionate about people’s souls and saves them from the cycle of sin. Over thousands of years, not only in India but also in all countries where the two Ramayana epics have been, they have stirred profound emotions and purified the soul, becoming the basis of morality and spirit. Gradually, ethnicity spread to all Asian nations influenced by Indian culture, leaving
a lasting imprint on literature, art, religion, ritual, morality, and commonplace language.

H4: Morality teachings significantly mediate Indian epic and international relations.

The Role of Responsibility Consciousness between Indian Epic and International Relations

In ancient Indian culture, the Indian epic "Ramayana" is regarded as an effective instructional tool. This epic instructs its audience on identifying their responsibilities and carrying out their obligations without squandering time. The inculcation of a sense of responsibility in the audience softens their hearts, refines their interactions, and fosters positive international relations (Sabirova et al., 202). Pallathadka et al. (2022) investigate the relationship between the Indian epic "Ramayana," a sense of responsibility, and international relations. The study asserts that incorporating the Indian epic "Ramayana" into the curriculum can be beneficial for instilling a sense of responsibility in international students. With increased responsibility awareness, international students and other individuals are impressed and inclined to develop strong relationships with domestic individuals with whom they come into contact. According to Sah and Sah (2021), the word dharma in this poem refers to a law that a person must adhere to regarding their literal obligations to society, routine responsibilities, and ultimate life tasks. This poem cultivates a sense of responsibility and fosters international relations. So,

H5: Responsibility consciousness significantly mediates Indian epic and international relations.

The Role of Cultural Attraction between Indian Epic and International Relations

The Indian epic "Ramayana" is a lengthy poem that illuminates the values, attitudes, and behaviors of the people of Indian society. In brief, it describes numerous aspects of Indian culture, from rituals to everyday practices. The accurate and engaging depiction of Indian culture increases the audience's desire to observe and participate in Indian culture. This cultural allure fosters healthy international relations by bringing people closer together. Thus, cultural attraction links the Indian epic and international relations (Bhattacharya et al., 2021).

Additionally, Shrivastava et al. (2021) investigate the relationship between cultural attractions, the Indian epic, and international relations. This study asserts that the Indian epic "Ramayana" depicts a specific community with specific cultural conditions, attracts individuals from various foreign cultures, and softens their emotions towards Indians.
Thus, the Indian epic and international relations are connected through cultural attraction. So, we can say:

H6: Cultural attraction significantly mediates Indian epic and international relations.

Research Methods

The research investigates the impact of the Indian epic "Ramayana" on morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction, as well as the impact of these factors on international relations, as well as the impact of morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction as a mediator between the Indian epic and international relations. The researchers used survey questionnaires to collect data from students majoring in philology, Indian epics in general, and Ramayana epics at educational institutions in Vietnam. The surveys were extracted from previous literature, such as Indian Epic was measured with three items taken from Mohapatra and Gupta (2021), morality teachings have four questions adapted from Quinlan (2019), responsibility consciousness has six items extracted from Abrego (2019), the cultural attraction was measured with five questions extracted from Seyfi et al. (2020), and international relations has four questions extracted from Hoper (2019).

The researchers selected philology majors from multiple Vietnamese higher education institutions as respondents. These individuals are chosen using a simple random sampling technique. The surveys were distributed to the students through personal visits to the institutions. The researchers sent approximately 534 questionnaires, but only 301 were returned and analyzed. These valid responses have a response rate of approximately 56.37 percent. In addition, the researchers utilized SPSS-AMOS to examine the association between the variables under investigation. It is a suitable statistical tool that effectively provides the most accurate estimates using primary data and functions even when complex models and large data sets are employed (Hair et al., 2017; Hair Jr et al., 2020). One independent variable, Indian Epic (IE), and three mediating variables, morality teachings (MT), responsibility consciousness (RC), and cultural attraction (CA), were employed by the researchers. The researchers also employed a dependent construct known as international relations (IR). Figure 1 contains these variables.
The study examines the correlation between items, also known as convergent validity. Using factor loadings and average variance extracted (AVE), it is determined that the values are more significant than 0.40 and 0.50, respectively. In addition, it is examined utilizing composite reliability (CR), and the results are more significant than 0.70. The Maximum Shared Variance (MSV) and the average Squared Shared Variance (ASV) are less than the AVE. These numbers indicated a strong correlation between elements. These examinations are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1. Convergent Validity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items and Constructs</th>
<th>Loadings</th>
<th>CR</th>
<th>AVE</th>
<th>MSV</th>
<th>ASV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IE1</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>0.749</td>
<td>0.886</td>
<td>0.724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE2</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>0.917</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE3</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>0.877</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT1</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>0.805</td>
<td>0.884</td>
<td>0.657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT2</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>0.788</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT3</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>0.824</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT4</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>0.824</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC1</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>RC</td>
<td>0.994</td>
<td>0.882</td>
<td>0.615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC2</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>RC</td>
<td>0.839</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC3</td>
<td>&lt;----</td>
<td>RC</td>
<td>0.497</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The research investigates the relationship between variables, also known as discriminant validity. It is evaluated using the Fornell-Larcker criterion, and the figure demonstrating the association with the construct itself is larger than the figure demonstrating the association with other constructs. These numbers indicated a weak relationship between variables. These examinations are listed in **Table 2**.

**Table 2. Discriminant Validity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>IE</th>
<th>MT</th>
<th>RC</th>
<th>IR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>0.727</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE</td>
<td>0.338</td>
<td>0.851</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>0.537</td>
<td>0.679</td>
<td>0.810</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC</td>
<td>0.483</td>
<td>0.282</td>
<td>0.467</td>
<td>0.784</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IR</td>
<td>0.534</td>
<td>0.509</td>
<td>0.563</td>
<td>0.614</td>
<td>0.831</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The study also evaluated the survey sample quality to assure compliance with the requirements. The Tucker-Lewis index (TLI) and comparative fit index (CFI) are used to verify this, and the results are more significant than 0.90. In addition, it is evaluated using the root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA), and the results are less than 0.05. These outcomes indicate that the model is well-suited and are listed in **Table 3**.

**Table 3. Survey Sample in the Study**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Indices</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Acceptable level of fit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TLI</td>
<td>0.904</td>
<td>TLI &gt; 0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFI</td>
<td>0.911</td>
<td>CFI &gt; 0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMSEA</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>RMSEA &lt; 0.05 good; 0.05 to 0.10 acceptable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The study results also demonstrate the direct relationship between the variables. The results demonstrated that the Indian Epic positively relates to morality teachings, responsibility awareness, and cultural attraction. These factors positively affect international relations, thus accepting hypotheses H1, H2, and H3. These results are listed in **Table 4**.

**Table 4. Direct Association**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationships</th>
<th>Beta</th>
<th>Std. Beta</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>CR.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consciousness</td>
<td>0.252</td>
<td>0.308</td>
<td>0.040</td>
<td>6.245</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachings</td>
<td>0.495</td>
<td>0.605</td>
<td>0.034</td>
<td>14.687</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attraction</td>
<td>0.095</td>
<td>0.126</td>
<td>0.039</td>
<td>2.453</td>
<td>0.014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations</td>
<td>0.282</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.039</td>
<td>7.324</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachings</td>
<td>0.402</td>
<td>0.442</td>
<td>0.038</td>
<td>10.450</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations</td>
<td>0.088</td>
<td>0.089</td>
<td>0.041</td>
<td>2.142</td>
<td>0.032</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2. Measurement Assessment Model
The study results also demonstrate the indirect relationship between the variables. In addition, the results indicate that morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction substantially mediate between the Indian Epic and international relations and support hypotheses H4, H5, and H6. These results are listed in Table 5.

Table 5. Indirect Association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Indian Epic</th>
<th>Cultural Attraction</th>
<th>Morality Teachings</th>
<th>Responsibility Consciousness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Attraction</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morality Teachings</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsibility Consciousness</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>0.335</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3. Structural Assessment Model

Discussions
The findings demonstrated that the Indian epic positively relates to morality teachings. These findings are supported by Prakash (2023), who examines the function of Indian epics in moral instruction. The study hypothesizes that listening to the Indian epic "Ramayana" enables listeners to perceive the essence and heart of things. The ability to distinguish between right and evil teaches the audience morality. These results are also consistent with Pandey and Pandey's (2019) assertion that the Indian epic, which provides a comprehensive account of Rama's personality, from his intentions to his actions, teaches readers much about living a righteous life. Therefore, it is verified that the Indian epic promotes moral education. The results indicated that the Indian epic positively correlates with responsibility awareness. These findings are supported by Mishra (2019), who examines the contribution of Indian epics to audience personalities. Throughout Rama’s journey, he illustrates the various responsibilities imposed on a man at various phases and how a man must struggle to fulfill these responsibilities. This develops a sense of responsibility. These results are also consistent with Rajoura and Rajoura's (2022) assertion that when Epic readers and listeners investigate various sections of the Indian epic "Ramayana," they gain an understanding of human responsibilities in a society or community under any circumstance. This awareness cultivates a sense of responsibility in the epic's audience.

The results demonstrated a positive correlation between Indian epic and cultural attraction. These findings are supported by Balakrishnan et al. (2020), who assert that the Indian epic depicts and explores the positive aspects of Indian culture. This revelation of the culture's positivism and amusement attracts the audience to Indian culture. These findings are consistent with Aryaa and Kundu's assertion that the Indian epic "Ramayana" provides insights into social and religious Indian culture (2023). This piques the interest of the audience and attracts them to Indian culture. The results demonstrated that moral teachings are an essential mediator between the Indian epic and international relations. These findings are supported by Rankhambe (2023), who explains that in the Indian epic "Ramayana," the audience is compelled to consider moral values such as renunciation of avarice, sacrifice for humanity, truthfulness, honesty, and promise fulfillment. These results are also consistent with Mir's (1923) assertion that after reading the Indian epic "Ramayana," the audience understands moral values, their significance, and their effects on society. The great moral values of the epic Ramayana reflect the distinctive characteristics of Indian thought, personality, and ideology, or "Indian spirit." From there, it assists readers in gaining a comprehensive understanding of Indian culture.

The results demonstrated that a sense of responsibility is an essential mediator between the Indian epic and international relations. These findings are supported by Shekhar (2019), who demonstrates that when the Indian epic "Ramayana" is narrated, various characters, including Rama, impress the audience and instill a sense of responsibility in them. When individuals are instructed to fulfill their responsibilities to the best
of their abilities, they develop a sense of accountability and conduct well. This may result in the formation of robust international relations. These findings are also consistent with those of Davidson and Ghosh (2022), who note that when the Indian epic "Ramayana" is read to audiences from various countries, the listeners develop a sense of responsibility, strengthening international relations. The results demonstrated that cultural attraction is a critical mediator between Indian epic and international relations. These findings are supported by Santarita (2023), who asserts that the Indian epic "Ramayana" describes Indian culture in exquisite detail. Therefore, cultural attraction strengthens the connection between the Indian epic and international relations. These results are consistent with Henry and Padma's (2019) assertion that if the Indian epic is comprehensively narrated, it could awaken cultural interest in foreigners and encourage them to develop close ties with the inland population.

**Implications**

The current study provides researchers with guidelines for analyzing the relationship between Indian epic and international relations. The essay discusses the contribution of the Indian epic "Ramayana" to international relations. It illuminates the role of the Indian epic "Ramayana" in moral instruction, awareness of personal accountability, and cultural attraction. It investigates the role of morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, and cultural attraction in mediating the relationship between the Indian epic "Ramayana" and international relations. This article examines the influence of the Indian epic "Ramayana" on Indian countries' moral education, sense of responsibility, cultural allure, and international relations.

The study also includes recommendations for the education ministry and institutional administration to contribute to enhancing international relations. The study guides for the Indian epic "Ramayana" should be incorporated into the learning process to impart moral lessons. It also stipulates that students must be encouraged to peruse the Indian epic "Ramayana" to develop a sense of responsibility. Similarly, lectures on the Indian epic "Ramayana" are required to promote cultural attraction. The study also suggests that classes on the Indian epic "Ramayana" should be required to foster a sense of responsibility and enhance international relations. In addition, the Indian epic "Ramayana" should be used to develop cultural attraction and international relations.

**Conclusion**

This study aims to examine the function of the Indian epic "Ramayana" in moral instruction, a sense of responsibility, and cultural attraction. In addition, the function of morality teachings, responsibility awareness, and cultural attraction in the Indian epic "Ramayana" and international relations will be analyzed. Through the survey results administered to
philology students at several Vietnamese universities that teach Indian literature in general and the epic Ramayana in particular, we determined the extent to which Vietnamese students are familiar with the epic. The outcome demonstrated a positive correlation between the Indian epic "Ramayana" and morality teachings, responsibility awareness, and cultural attraction. Through the character of Rama, a prominent figure in Hinduism, the "Ramayana" depicts moral values and their value, according to the study. After reading the poem, students gain an understanding of morality. The results also indicated that the Indian epic "Ramayana" raises the audience's awareness of their duties and responsibilities as social beings and family members and their desire to fulfill them. In addition, the study concluded that the Indian epic "Ramayana" attracts foreigners due to its diverse social, religious, ritual, and family elements. This contributes to the development of solid international relations. According to research findings, the Indian epic "Ramayana" and international relations are mediated by morality teachings, responsibility awareness, and cultural attraction. The reading of the Indian epic "Ramayana" imparts moral lessons, a sense of responsibility, and cultural allure, thereby enhancing international relations.

Limitations

Despite its theoretical and policy relevance, the study has a few limitations. Future scientists must eliminate these restrictions. This article investigates only the connection between a single factor, such as the Indian epic "Ramayana," and morality teachings, responsibility consciousness, cultural attraction, and international relations. It disregards other factors influencing international relations, and the research is limited. Future researchers should expand the quantity of international relations drivers. In addition, the study deserves praise for examining the role of an education system in constructing international relations. Still, it was limited to philology majors and minors at a few Vietnamese universities. Future researchers will also need to gather evidence from multiple education systems.

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