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**ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND SCIENTIFIC
CREATIVITY: THE MODERATING EFFECT
OF PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITY**

Dr. Sambit K Padhi*
Subrat Kumar Padhi**

Abstract : *This study aims to investigate how problem solving-ability, one of the vital competencies of secondary school students, has moderating effect on the strength of relationship between academic freedom and scientific creativity. Data were collected from 110 secondary school students for this purpose. Problem Solving Ability Test (PSAT) and Scientific Creativity Test (SCT) were administered to collect data from students. Data analysis was done by using regression to confirm the moderating role of Problem solving ability. Results indicated that the relation between academic freedom and scientific creativity is moderated by problem solving ability. Classroom implications are discussed. The findings also provide significant implications for educational institutions to understand better the importance of problem-solving ability, which will be helpful to enhance scientific creativity of students.*

Keywords: *Scientific Creativity, Academic Freedom, Problem Solving Ability*

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