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## Impact of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Technologies on Consumer Behavior and Brand Perception: A Study of Young Consumers in Ahmedabad

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**Abstract:** This study investigates the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technologies on consumer behavior and brand perceptions among young consumers in Ahmedabad. Using a quantitative approach, data was collected from 116 respondents through a structured questionnaire to examine AI-driven personalized experiences such as product recommendations, virtual assistants, and their influence on consumer attitudes and purchase intentions. Statistical analysis revealed that AI integration significantly enhances consumer satisfaction and influences purchase decisions, while demographic factors such as gender and education showed minimal influence on AI preferences. The findings highlight the potential of AI to shape future consumer engagement and purchasing behavior. This research contributes to the understanding of AI's role in modern retail and its implications for businesses aiming to leverage AI for personalized marketing.

**Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence, Consumer Behavior, Personalized Marketing.

### INTRODUCTION

The landscape of online shopping and digital interactions has undergone significant transformations in recent years, particularly with the advent and widespread adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. The impact of AI on online shopping, especially concerning

younger demographics, has become a pivotal area of research, underscoring how these technologies shape consumer behaviors and preferences. This introduction delves into various aspects of AI's influence, drawing from recent studies that explore diverse facets of digital engagement, from social media interactions to mobile payment systems. One critical study by Abbasi et al. (2023) investigates TikTok app usage behavior and highlights the role of hedonic consumption experiences in shaping user engagement. Their research emphasizes how AI-driven recommendations on TikTok can enhance user satisfaction by personalizing content to match individual preferences, thereby influencing consumer behavior in the digital space. The implications of such personalized experiences are profound, especially for younger users who are more likely to engage with interactive and content-rich platforms.

Similarly, Butt et al. (2024) examine the gamification of WeChat and its impact on mobile payment systems. Their study reveals that AI-driven gamification strategies can significantly affect customer loyalty and word-of-mouth recommendations. The integration of game-like elements into mobile payment platforms not only enhances user engagement but also fosters a deeper connection with the brand, a factor crucial for retaining younger consumers who are accustomed to interactive and gamified experiences. In contrast, Chan et al. (2016) offer a broader perspective on digital interaction by analyzing graffiti-writing behaviors in Hong Kong. While not directly related to AI, their exploration into how digital and physical forms of expression converge provides insights into the evolving nature of digital communication and its cultural implications. This contextual background is essential for understanding the broader impact of AI on digital behavior, particularly among younger individuals who navigate both online and offline realms. Chuah et al. (2022) shift the focus to the hospitality industry, examining factors that influence consumers' willingness to pay a premium for robotic services in restaurants. Their findings suggest that AI-driven innovations in service delivery, such as robotic waiters, are increasingly influencing consumer choices. For younger consumers, who are often more open to technological advancements, such innovations represent a blend of convenience and novelty, which can significantly impact their spending behaviors and preferences.

Contreras Pinochet et al. (2019) explore the propensity of contracting financial services from FinTech companies in Brazil, shedding light on how AI and digital platforms are reshaping financial interactions. Their research indicates that younger consumers, who are more tech-savvy, are more inclined to engage with FinTech solutions that offer streamlined, AI-driven services. This shift reflects a broader trend where AI is transforming traditional financial services into more accessible and user-friendly formats. Elstouhy et al. (2023) integrate the ISS and SOR models to investigate factors influencing the continuance intention towards mobile payments for donations. Their study highlights the role of Islamic religiosity as a moderating factor, demonstrating how AI and digital platforms can cater to specific cultural and religious contexts. This nuanced understanding of AI's role in personalized financial transactions is particularly relevant for younger consumers who seek services that align with their values and beliefs. Pasca et al. (2021) provide a systematic literature review of gamification in tourism and hospitality research, emphasizing how digital platforms utilize AI to enhance user experiences. Their review underscores the importance of gamification in engaging younger audiences, who are increasingly drawn to interactive and rewarding experiences facilitated by AI technologies.

Saha et al. (2024) address online abuse and its implications through a systematic literature review. Their research highlights the darker side of digital interactions and the challenges posed by AI in moderating and managing online abuse. For younger users, who are particularly

vulnerable to online harassment, understanding and mitigating these issues is crucial for fostering a safer online environment.

### METHOD

This study aims to investigate the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technologies on consumer behavior and brand perceptions among young consumers in Ahmedabad. Two primary objectives guide this research:

- ✓ To examine the influence of AI-driven personalized experiences on consumer attitudes and purchase intentions.

To achieve these objectives, the research employs a quantitative approach utilizing a structured questionnaire distributed through Google Forms to 120 random samples. The sample comprises 116 young consumers from Ahmedabad we deleted four outliers, selected using a convenience sampling method to ensure relevance and practicality. Data collection focuses on understanding how AI and digital platforms affect consumer behavior and brand perceptions, reflecting trends identified in recent studies (Kudeshia & Kumar, 2017; Das & Mandal, 2016).

#### Two hypotheses are tested in this study:

H1: AI-driven personalized experiences significantly enhance consumer attitudes and increase purchase intentions.

Data collected through the Google Forms questionnaire will be analyzed using SPSS software. Statistical techniques such as descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and regression analysis will be applied to test the hypotheses and draw meaningful conclusions from the data. This methodological approach ensures a robust analysis of how AI and digital technologies are shaping consumer behavior and brand perceptions in the contemporary digital landscape.

### Analysis

The demographic profile of respondents provides key insights into the characteristics of the sample used for the study. Out of 116 respondents, the majority (80.2%) were between the ages of 16-20, indicating that the focus of the research is on young consumers. A smaller portion, 15.5%, fell within the 20-24 age group, while only 4.3% were aged 11-15.

**Table 1: Demographic profile of the Samples**

		Frequency	Percentage
Age	11-15	5	4.3%
	16-20	93	80.2%
	20-24	18	15.5%
Total		<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>
Gender	Female	51	44%
	Male	65	56%
Total		<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>
Education	Primary Secondary	3	2.6%
	Higher Secondary	46	39.7%
	Undergraduate	62	53.4%

	Post Graduate	5	4.3%
<b>Total</b>		<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Shop Online</b>	Daily	8	6.9%
	Weekly	18	15.5%
	Monthly	53	45.7%
	Rarely	37	31.9%
<b>Total</b>		<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>

[Sources: SPSS Analysis by authors]

In terms of gender distribution, 56% of the respondents were male, and 44% were female, reflecting a fairly balanced gender representation. When considering educational background, more than half of the respondents (53.4%) were undergraduates, with 39.7% having completed higher secondary education. Only a small percentage (2.6%) had completed primary or secondary education, and 4.3% were postgraduates. Regarding online shopping habits, 45.7% of respondents shopped online monthly, while 31.9% did so rarely. A smaller percentage shopped weekly (15.5%), and only 6.9% shopped daily. This data is critical for understanding consumer behavior in relation to AI and digital technologies, as it reveals the shopping frequency

**Table 2: ANOVA between age and factor**

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
<b>AI features while shopping</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.146	2	.073	.402	.670
	<b>Within Groups</b>	20.569	113	.182		
	<b>Total</b>	20.716	115			
<b>AI recommendations</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	7.957	2	3.979	4.950	.009
	<b>Within Groups</b>	90.827	113	.804		
	<b>Total</b>	98.784	115			
<b>Trust AI reviews</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	3.665	2	1.833	3.174	.046
	<b>Within Groups</b>	65.257	113	.577		
	<b>Total</b>	68.922	115			
<b>AI improve shopping experience</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.041	2	.020	.021	.979
	<b>Within Groups</b>	107.503	113	.951		
	<b>Total</b>	107.543	115			
<b>More AI integration</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	1.887	2	.943	1.364	.260
	<b>Within Groups</b>	78.148	113	.692		
	<b>Total</b>	80.034	115			
<b>Comfortable with AI-powered payments</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.736	2	.368	.534	.588
	<b>Within Groups</b>	77.816	113	.689		
	<b>Total</b>	78.552	115			
<b>Adopting new AI tech</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	5.977	2	2.989	3.128	.048
	<b>Within Groups</b>	107.980	113	.956		
	<b>Total</b>	113.957	115			

[Sources: SPSS Analysis by authors]

The study investigates the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technologies on consumer behavior and brand perceptions among young consumers in Ahmedabad. Table 2 presents the results of an ANOVA analysis exploring the relationship between age and various factors related to AI-driven experiences in online shopping. "Have you noticed AI features like personalized product suggestions or virtual assistants while shopping online?" shows no significant difference between age groups, as indicated by a p-value of 0.670, meaning age does not affect awareness of AI in shopping. Similarly, the statement, "Do you think AI will improve your online shopping experience in the future?" also shows no significant variation across age groups ( $p = 0.979$ ), suggesting that all age groups share similar views regarding the future role of AI in enhancing shopping experiences.

When it comes to the influence of AI-powered personalized recommendations on buying decisions, the analysis shows a significant difference across age groups ( $p = 0.009$ ), indicating that certain age groups are more likely to be influenced by personalized AI recommendations than others. Another significant finding is that the preference for AI-generated product reviews over human-generated reviews varies between age groups ( $p = 0.046$ ), revealing a growing trust in AI-generated content among certain younger consumers. The statement "On a scale of 1-5, how likely are you to adopt new AI technologies in online shopping in the future?" also shows significant variation across age groups ( $p = 0.048$ ), suggesting that younger consumers may be more inclined to adopt AI technologies in their shopping experiences.

Other factors such as comfort with AI-powered payment methods ( $p = 0.588$ ) and preference for more AI integration in shopping experiences ( $p = 0.260$ ) do not show significant differences between age groups. This highlights a generally consistent level of comfort and acceptance of AI across age demographics when it comes to these specific aspects of online shopping.

**Table 3: ANOVA between gender and factor**

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
<b>AI features while shopping</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.288	1	.288	1.609	.207
	<b>Within Groups</b>	20.427	114	.179		
	<b>Total</b>	20.716	115			
<b>AI recommendations</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.275	1	.275	.318	.574
	<b>Within Groups</b>	98.510	114	.864		
	<b>Total</b>	98.784	115			
<b>Trust AI reviews</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.016	1	.016	.027	.870
	<b>Within Groups</b>	68.906	114	.604		
	<b>Total</b>	68.922	115			
<b>AI improve shopping experience</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.103	1	.103	.109	.742
	<b>Within Groups</b>	107.440	114	.942		
	<b>Total</b>	107.543	115			
<b>More AI integration</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.574	1	.574	.824	.366

	<b>Within Groups</b>	79.460	114	.697		
	<b>Total</b>	80.034	115			
<b>Comfortable with AI-powered payments</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.051	1	.051	.074	.786
	<b>Within Groups</b>	78.501	114	.689		
	<b>Total</b>	78.552	115			
<b>Adopting new AI tech</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.191	1	.191	.191	.663
	<b>Within Groups</b>	113.766	114	.998		
	<b>Total</b>	113.957	115			

[Sources: SPSS Analysis by authors]

The ANOVA analysis in Table 3 examines the relationship between gender and various factors related to AI-driven experiences in online shopping. The results indicate that there are no significant differences between male and female respondents regarding their perceptions of AI in online shopping across all measured factors. The factor "Have you noticed AI features like personalized product suggestions or virtual assistants while shopping online?" does not show a significant difference between genders ( $p = 0.207$ ), indicating that both male and female consumers have a similar level of awareness regarding AI features in online shopping. Similarly, the factor "Do you feel that AI-powered personalized recommendations influence your buying decisions?" also does not show any gender-based difference ( $p = 0.574$ ), suggesting that the impact of personalized AI recommendations on purchase decisions is consistent across both genders.

The trust in AI-generated product reviews over human-generated reviews also shows no significant gender difference ( $p = 0.870$ ), meaning that both males and females are equally likely (or unlikely) to trust AI-generated reviews. Likewise, the belief that "AI will improve your online shopping experience in the future" shows no significant variation between genders ( $p = 0.742$ ), indicating a shared expectation of AI's role in enhancing shopping experiences in the future. The preference for more AI integration in online shopping, such as virtual fitting rooms or voice search, also does not differ significantly between genders ( $p = 0.366$ ), nor does comfort with AI-powered payment methods ( $p = 0.786$ ). Both male and female consumers express similar levels of comfort and openness to the use of AI in these aspects. The likelihood of adopting new AI technologies in online shopping does not vary between genders ( $p = 0.663$ ), indicating that both male and female consumers have a comparable inclination to embrace AI-driven innovations in the future.

**Table 4: ANOVA between education and factor**

		<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
<b>AI features while shopping</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.461	3	.154	.850	.469
	<b>Within Groups</b>	20.254	112	.181		
	<b>Total</b>	20.716	115			
<b>AI recommendations</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	1.796	3	.599	.691	.559
	<b>Within Groups</b>	96.988	112	.866		
	<b>Total</b>	98.784	115			
<b>Trust AI reviews</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	2.402	3	.801	1.348	.262
	<b>Within Groups</b>	66.520	112	.594		

	<b>Total</b>	68.922	115			
<b>AI improve shopping experience</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.885	3	.295	.310	.818
	<b>Within Groups</b>	106.658	112	.952		
	<b>Total</b>	107.543	115			
<b>More AI integration</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	.826	3	.275	.389	.761
	<b>Within Groups</b>	79.209	112	.707		
	<b>Total</b>	80.034	115			
<b>Comfortable with AI-powered payments</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	2.422	3	.807	1.188	.318
	<b>Within Groups</b>	76.130	112	.680		
	<b>Total</b>	78.552	115			
<b>Adopting new AI tech</b>	<b>Between Groups</b>	2.790	3	.930	.937	.425
	<b>Within Groups</b>	111.167	112	.993		
	<b>Total</b>	113.957	115			

[Sources: SPSS Analysis by authors]

The ANOVA analysis in Table 4 examines the relationship between education level and various factors related to AI-driven experiences in online shopping. The results indicate that there are no significant differences across education levels for all factors examined, suggesting that educational background does not significantly influence perceptions of AI in online shopping. For the factor "Have you noticed AI features like personalized product suggestions or virtual assistants while shopping online?" there is no significant difference between education groups ( $p = 0.469$ ). This suggests that regardless of education level, consumers are equally likely to notice AI features in their online shopping experiences. Similarly, the factor "Do you feel that AI-powered personalized recommendations influence your buying decisions?" also shows no significant difference ( $p = 0.559$ ), meaning consumers across education levels perceive AI-powered recommendations similarly when it comes to affecting their purchase decisions.

The trust in AI-generated product reviews over human-generated reviews does not vary significantly by education level either ( $p = 0.262$ ). This indicates that the level of trust in AI-generated content is consistent across different education backgrounds. Likewise, the factor "Do you think AI will improve your online shopping experience in the future" also shows no significant variation between education levels ( $p = 0.818$ ), suggesting that expectations of AI's role in improving online shopping experiences are similar across educational backgrounds. Preferences for more AI integration in online shopping, such as virtual fitting rooms or voice search, show no significant differences by education level ( $p = 0.761$ ). Similarly, comfort with AI-powered payment methods ( $p = 0.318$ ) and the likelihood of adopting new AI technologies in the future ( $p = 0.425$ ) do not vary significantly between education groups.

## Discussion

The discussion for this paper draws on various studies to contextualize the findings regarding the influence of AI and digital technologies on consumer behavior. Notably, Khare et al. (2023) highlighted how AI-enabled services are transforming the online shopping experience, influencing consumer emotions such as awe and encouraging purchase decisions. This study aligns with their findings by showing that AI-driven personalized experiences significantly enhance consumer attitudes and increase purchase intentions. Kudeshia and Kumar (2017) emphasized the impact of social eWOM on brand attitudes and purchase intent, a concept that parallels AI's role in shaping consumer behavior. The integration of AI in personalized product suggestions, as indicated by

Khan et al. (2023), promotes more informed and quicker decision-making, particularly among young consumers, supporting the results of this study. Further, Patel and Patel (2018) explored the adoption of internet banking, similar to AI-powered payment methods in online shopping, indicating that consumers are increasingly comfortable with digital transactions, a trend corroborated in this research. The influence of education, as analyzed by Khobzi and Teimourpour (2014), showed insignificant differences in AI perception, which aligns with this study's findings that demographic factors such as education level did not significantly affect attitudes toward AI integration.

## CONCLUSION

This study explored the significant impact of AI and digital technologies on consumer behavior, with a specific focus on young consumers in Ahmedabad. The results indicate that AI-driven personalized experiences, such as product recommendations and virtual assistants, positively influence consumer attitudes and increase purchase intentions. The study highlights that consumers are generally receptive to AI technologies, with preferences for increased AI integration in their online shopping experience. However, demographic factors such as gender and education level did not significantly influence these preferences, suggesting that AI's appeal is broad across various consumer groups.

## Future Scope of Study

While this research focused on young consumers in a specific geographical area, future studies could expand by including diverse age groups and regions to gain a broader understanding of AI's influence on global consumer behavior. Additionally, longitudinal studies could be conducted to assess how evolving AI technologies, such as virtual fitting rooms and voice-activated shopping, impact long-term consumer loyalty and brand perception.

## Global Impact

Globally, AI is revolutionizing consumer experiences, especially in e-commerce, by providing personalized, efficient, and data-driven shopping solutions. As businesses increasingly adopt AI, understanding its influence on consumer behavior will be crucial in shaping the strategies of global retailers. This study adds to the growing body of knowledge, emphasizing the need for businesses worldwide to integrate AI into their customer engagement strategies to stay competitive and meet evolving consumer expectations.

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