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| National Conference | Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's Prof. Dr. N.D. Patil Mahavidyalaya, Malkapur (Perid) | Special Issue 4 th January 2020 |
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Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's
Prof. Dr. N. D. Patil Mahavidyalaya, Malkapur (Perid)

One Day National Interdisciplinary Conference
On
**Recent Trends and Issues in Languages,
Social Sciences and Commerce**
Saturday, 4th January, 2020

Organized by
Department of English, Hindi, Marathi,
Economics, History, Commerce and IQAC

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**Socio-Economic, Educational, and Cultural Study of Nomadic Tribes with
Special Reference to Dhangar Community in Shahuwadi Tehsil of Kolhapur
District**

Prin. Dr. Sunil Helkar, Prof. Dr. N.D. Patil Mahavidyalaya, Malkapur (Kolhapur)
Mr. Sachin Chavan,
Smt. Shubhangi Lavate

Introduction:

The Indian subcontinent is having more than six lakh villages with diverse population of religion, castes, creed, race and culture. All these are categorized after independence into different schedules and tribes etc. The present research paper focuses on socio-economic, educational, cultural study of Nomadic tribes with special reference to Dhanagar community in Shahuwadi tehsil of Kolhapur district. The Nomadic Tribes and Denotified Tribes consist of about 60 million people in India, out of which about five million live in the State of Maharashtra. There are 315 Nomadic tribes and 198 Denotified tribes.

A large section of Nomadic pastoralist tribes are known as VimuktaJatis or 'free Liberated Jatis' because they were classes as such under the criminal tribes Act 1871, enacted under British rule in India.

After independence, this act was repealed by the Government of India in 1952. In Maharashtra these people have not been included in the list of Schedule Tribes due to historical circumstances. They are listed in scheduled castes or nomadic tribes. The tribes designated as "Denotified", "Nomadic" or "semi-Nomadic" eligible for educational and political reservation in India. Nomads are known as a group of communities who travel from place to place for their livelihood. In India there are many pastoral nomadic communities. Among these majors are Bakarwal, Bharwad, Bhotia, Bhutia, Changpa, Charan, Dhangar, Gaddi, Gaddi Muslim, Gaderia, Gavli, Gayri, Ghosi, Golla also known as Nandiwala, Gujjar, Jath, Kinnuara, Kuruma, Mer, Monpa, Rath, Rabari/Raika, Toda, Van Gujar etc. Dhangar is one of the pastoral nomadic communities in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. The present research focuses on the social, educational, cultural and economic study of Nomadic tribes with special reference to Dhanagar community in Shahuwadi tehsil. Dhanagarcommunity is a major but down trodden community in Shahuwadi tehsil. Research has been done on Dhangar community before 1980. After 1980 no data is made available about this community that's why this topic has been selected for the research.

Objectives of the Study:

- To find out the reasons of backwardness of Dhanagar community.
- To help the Government authorities to plan further for the wellbeing of the tribes.
- To make data available to execute and implement the plan of action to get Dhangar community in the main stream of the society.

Definitions of Technical words:

- **Nomadic:**
Moving from one place to another rather than living in one place of all the time.
- **Tribes:**
A group of people that have the same language, customs and have a leader.

Dhangan

Dhangan is binding each of people through a well made structure, is used in the present part of Kolhapur district which is a part of western ghats of Sahyadri hills.

Culture

Culture means the customs, ideas, beliefs and way of living among any group of a particular community.

Significance of the study

Through this community based research study, the present study is to study the present and future of Dhangan. The present study is to study the present and future of Dhangan. The present study is to study the present and future of Dhangan. The present study is to study the present and future of Dhangan.

Field work

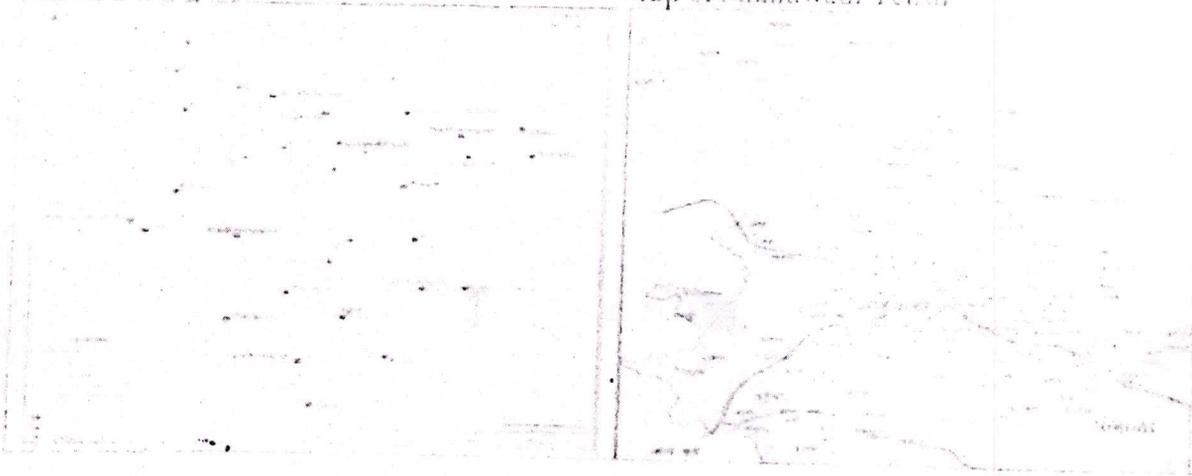
Shahuwadi

Shahuwadi is a village located in western ghats, and it is a part of Kolhapur district. It is a part of western ghats, very rich in biodiversity. This area is a part of western ghats, very rich in biodiversity. This area is a part of western ghats, very rich in biodiversity.

Frequent visits were made to various Dhanganwadi particularly their social life and temporary settlements/shelters to collect the information about their day to day activities. Dhangan community is mainly engaged in animal husbandry, a map method of milk and meat. For the present study survey method is used. The survey of population, survey of individual people, survey of their livestock, facilities available to them, their dependence on natural resources and migration for jobs etc. Data was collected through personal interviews and interactions.

Map of Kolhapur District

Map of Shahuwadi Teted



1. Present social status of Dhangan community:

With the help of personal interviews and interactions it is known that the socio-economic status of this community living in Shahuwadi is *Dalit/Dhangan*. In the present situation these people are fascinated and attracted towards modernization due to the globalization. Up to 1950-1960 these

people have not opportunities in education. So they resort to selling seasonal wild fruits in the region. Some were working in hotels as a waiter. Women also earned by selling handlooms. But after this decade there was a drastic change in their life style as well as in professions. The following table shows the generation gap of their professions.

| Age Group | Professions |
|-----------|--|
| 6-17 | Forced primary education up to 6 th grade, gets involved in the number decreases drastically. |
| 18-35 | Male: waiter in restaurants of nearby towns and cities. Labour in the field of construction. Female: Labour in the field of construction. |
| 35-60 | Male and Female: Selling seasonal wild fruits in local markets, bus stands and in and around temple. |

The above table shows the change in the attitude of the present and former generation. They use mobiles. They earn money by working in a field of construction as a labour. So they use mobiles and they pay for recharge it. While paying for recharge they use the 15 rupee of worth such as balance, net-pack etc. It shows their fascination towards modernization. But it is a fact that they live in a remote area, far away from the towns and cities. Due to this, they are bereft of health facilities, electricity and water supply. The water is not available in scorching season although this area receives highest rainfall in monsoon season. The sources of water are wells, brooks and ponds etc. It is found that RSS sponsored medical van visits twice in a month and provide primary medical facilities to needy people. Most of the males are away from their families in search of employments. They work as a labors in building construction, waiter in restaurants, in Malkapur and in cities such as Kolhapur, Karad, Mumbai and Pune.

2. Present Educational status of Dhangar community:

With the help of personal interviews and interactions it is found that there are lack of educational facilities. This community lives in remote areas, far away from the civilized people. Anganwadi concept is reached to the door steps of this community. Anganwadi gives pre primary education to children above 4 and below 6 years of age. In some areas there is availability of primary and secondary education and in some there is only primary education. As a result few get education up to 10th and 12th standard. Higher education facilities are available at Malkapur, Sarud, Kapsi etc. This is not affordable for this Dangi danger community as their financial status and meager. This shows that even in 21st century they are not getting even preprimary and primary education.

3. The Cultural study of Dhangar community:

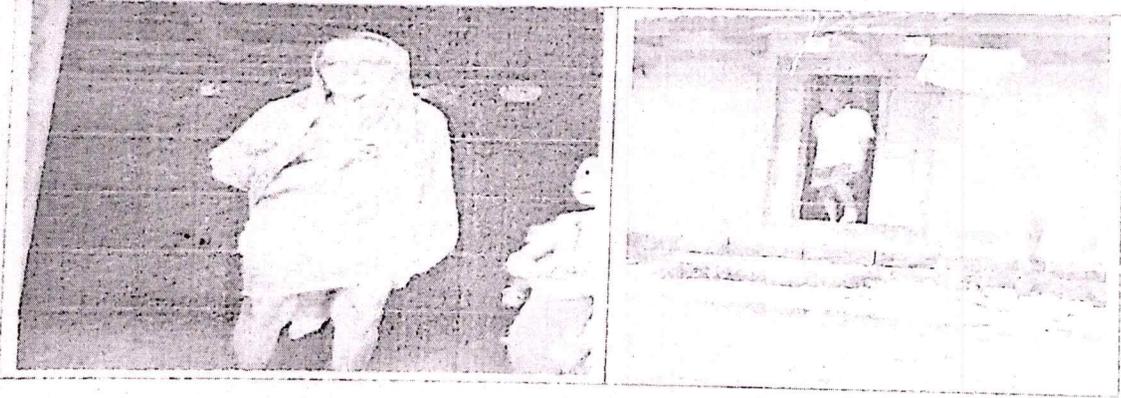
Through frequent visits, it is observed that costumes of male are *Bandi, Dhoti* and *Langot* and of female is *Nauwari Saree*. They eat Rice, *Daal, Bhakar* in day today life. But on the occasion of festivals, they eat *Puranpoli*, and *Puri* with *Chicken-Chicken vada*. They have their own folk dance named as '*Gujari nritva*'. They use their own musical instruments for *Gujari* folk dance are *Drum (Dhol)* and *Kantal*. They celebrate the festivals such as *GudhiPadwa* and *Dasara*. On this occasion, they wear a special costume and present their *Gujari* folk dance in a temple of their village. Their homes are made of locally available wood materials. They use the set up small worshipping place at particular site in their own house putting idols of *Nimai* and *Vithaba*. They worship them regularly with full honor.

Dhangar community in Shahuwadi



4. Present Economic status of Dhangar community:

With the help of personal interviews and observation it is found that the people belong to Dhangar community own very low piece of land and they take crops of *moringa*. The economic sources of this community are agriculture, fuel wood selling, seasonal wild fruit selling, pans selling etc. They are working as a labour in the field of building construction and waiter in restaurants of nearby towns and cities. The income from agriculture is meager. The whole community is below poverty line. Their purchasing power is very low so they keep their body and soul together



Dhangar community

Conclusions:

Dhangar community in Shahuwadi is still so socially backward. There is the need of water, electricity, medical and educational facilities. So that it will help them to improve their social status.

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- Because of economic dilemma and inaccessible transportation facilities, that deprived their children from pursuing education.
- People belong to Dhangar Community in Shahuwadi are religious. They celebrate their traditional festivals happily.
- In the era of globalization, the people in this community do jobs on daily wages. They have insufficient money and so they leave their families and go to the cities to earn money. So these people are also economically backward.

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