

Socio-economic Condition of Gujjaran Mohalla in Hisar City

Manoj Kumar

Assistant Professor of Geography, FGM Government College, Adampur, Haryana, India

Abstract:- The present paper is an attempt to understand the educational development, the age and sex pattern, occupational and economic structure at household level of Gujjaran Mohalla which is a caste based segregated mohalla inhabited by Gujjar caste, one of the oldest mohalla of Hisar city. The present work involves the use of various natures of data and maps collected from different sources from both published and unpublished categories. Secondary information is gathered from literatures, historical records, Google earth image, etc. The primary data has been generated through a census household survey carried on October, 2014 in the Gujjaran Mohalla. The socio-economic survey of a total of 47 households was carried out through canvassing of structured questionnaires. Maps have been prepared to show the location, cultural setting and land use. The literacy rate has been computed excluding age group 0-6 year's population. Further, literate's population are divided into pre-primary, primary, middle, matric, senior secondary, and higher education. Sopher's disparity index, modified by Kundu and Rao (1985) has been used to assess the gender disparity in level of literacy. The work force in the present study includes both the main and marginal workers. Gujjars have shown good social development and moderate to low economic development. In spite of significant diversification in case of occupational structure, they have shown very low level of social interaction with other castes in the society.

in pastoralism and transhumance with their livestock's. They are a milk selling community. Livestock economy of the Gujjars is managed by the male. The success of livestock economy of the Gujjars depends on both men and women. Traditionally, Gujjar are a pastoral community that used to be nomadic but many now live in settled communities. They are a well-built people, medium to tall in structure (www.indiamirror.com).

Disparity on the basis of caste has been common in social, economic and political spheres as well as settlement for generations in India. Social restrictions and degree of discrimination on castes may be attributable, at least in part, to cultural and historical factors and hence could differ from one social group to another. Though, education has been valued as a vehicle of social change but only a few selected sections of the society generally pursued formal education. Some sections were explicitly prohibited from receiving education thereby preventing equality in education. This naturally led to wide variations in education, occupation and other economic conditions among population belonging to various social groups. These are most acute in between the 'caste Hindus' and the castes that were treated as 'untouchable' now grouped as scheduled castes (Kulkarni, 2002:5).

I. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Gujjars, who live both in Sedentary and Nomadic life today, have once ruled the entire Northern India. Modern day Gujarat is called "GUJAR-RATA" or Gujjar Rashtira meaning "Kingdom of Gujjars". This was the area where Gujjars flourished and their rule spread over entire Northern India. Gujjar tribe appeared on the horizon of India during 5th century A.D, with the advent of white Huns and they established their rule on northern parts. History revealed that the entire Northern India was ruled by the Ashkani, Panwar, Baruch, Chaweri and Parthar Gujjars. There states of Gujjar kingdoms present a brief account of the Glorious past of Gujjars. Not only this, the immortal remains of Gujjar past tell their stories in the whole central Asia and adjoining areas. Presently, Gujjars live in one dozen States of India, with their distinctive life style; these States include Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, M.P, Uttaranchal and Gujarat, besides a few areas in Delhi. Gujjars are mainly divided between those who continue to pursue a nomadic life and those who are settled on land.

The word Gujjar is derived from the term gaucherana; meaning to graze cows. As nomadic tribes they are involved

In the changing situation of modern India, where democratic institutions are taking their roots the dynamics of human behaviours are likely to give rise to new social patterns and space articulation, since the existing patterns particularly in rural areas, are by and large the result of the age-old social and ethical values and economic-cultural systems and group relationships, they are mostly out of tune with the tents of modern democratic ethic and desired social and space relations. Therefore, the desired relations are to be based on new egalitarians, humanistic values of equality irrespective of religion, sex, caste, creed or region.

Therefore, it would be a matter of great academic interest to know the level of socio-economic conditions of caste based segregated mohalla of the fast growing city i.e. Hisar city of Haryana.

II. THE MOHALLA DEFINED

"As a socio-spatial unit of caste-based segregated residential area (Ahmad, 1999:189). Gujjaran Mohalla is a socio-spatial unit of Gujjar's inhabitants.

III. OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

The present study seeks to understand the educational development, the age and sex pattern, occupational and economic structure at household level.

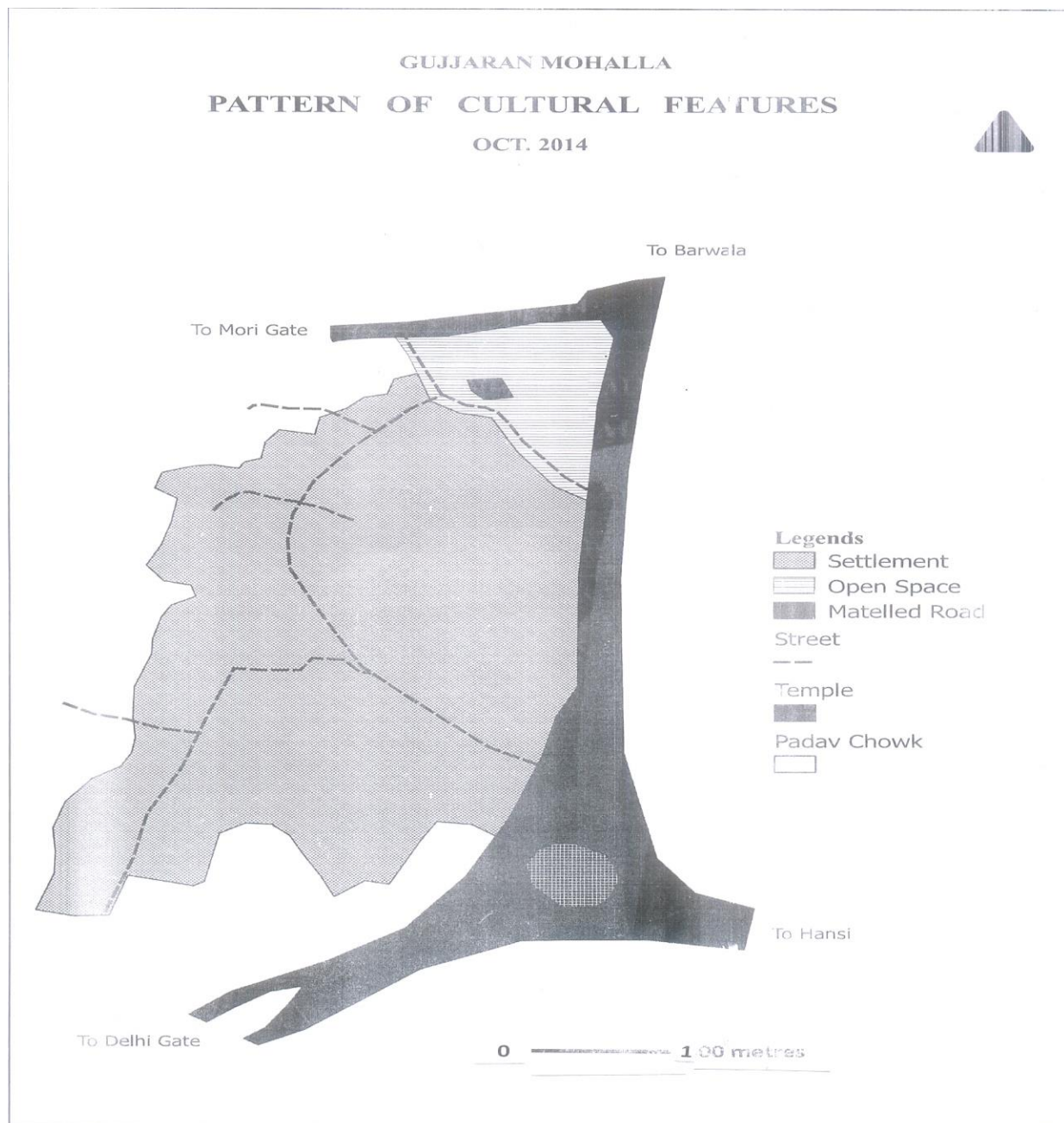
IV. RESEARCH QUESTION

The study seeks to answer;

What is the level of socio-economic conditions in the Gujjaran Mohalla of Hisar city?

V. STUDY AREA

Gujjaran Mohalla a caste based segregated mohalla inhabited by Gujjar caste is one of the oldest mohalla of Hisar city. Hisar, one of the prominent cities of Haryana, is located in the western part of the state. Geographically, it is located at $29^{\circ}5'$ North latitude and $75^{\circ}45'$ East longitude. It is situated 164 KM west of Delhi on the National Highway No. 10. The city is located in the back drop of sandy and alluvial plains having semi-arid climatic conditions. Occasionally in peak summer the mercury soars up to 48 C and in winter it drops down to 2 C. It receives about 400 mm rainfall annually most of which occurs during southwest monsoon season (Gazetter, 1987). Historically, the region had pastoral and subsistence agriculture economy.



At present, a total of 47 families of Gujjar caste are residing in the mohalla. Total population of the Gujjaran Mohalla is 245 persons including 118 males and 127 females. Out of 47 families, 59.57 percent families are nucleated while 40.43 percent are joint family. About 38.30 percent families still rears caws in street in which 72.22 families are living in common courtyard with their animals. Due to which, unhygienic conditions prevail in the house as well as mohalla environment. On the basis of analysis of data regarding social interaction, it is revealed that a major section (81.81 percent) of respondents has interacted within their own caste for socio-economic cause. About 4.61 percent respondents have shown their relationship with Brahmin. An equal percentage i.e. 4.54 of respondents have accounted for social interaction with Yadav, Saini and Kumhar castes. These castes have more or less equal traditional socio-economic status as compare to Gujjar caste.

VI. DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present work involves the use of various natures of data and maps collected from different sources from both published and unpublished categories. Secondary information is gathered from literatures, historical records, Google earth image, etc. The primary data has been generated through a census household survey carried on October, 2014 in the Gujjaran Mohalla. The socio-economic survey of a total of 47 households was carried out. The data has been collected through canvassing of structured questionnaires. The data relating to the demographic, and socio-economic structure have been recorded at the household level on the basis of their availability and consent.

The study highlights the locational setting of the Gujjaran Mohalla. The main aspects studied are, location, History of the Mohalla, Ethnic structure & Profession. It is based on both primary & secondary data. Maps have been prepared to show the location, cultural setting and land use. The literacy rate has been computed excluding age group 0-6 year's population. Literacy rate is calculated with the help of under mentioned formula: literates divided by population and multiplying by hundred. Further, literate's population are divided into pre-primary, primary, middle, matric, senior secondary, and higher education. Sopher's disparity index, modified by Kundu and Rao (1985) has been used to assess the gender disparity in level of literacy with the help of under mentioned formula:

$$DS = \text{Log} \left(\frac{X_2}{X_1} \right) + \text{Log} \left(\frac{200 - X_1}{200 - X_2} \right)$$

Where, DS is gender disparity index, X_1 is percentage of literate females to total female population and X_2 is percentage of literate males to total male population.

On the basis of age and sex, the population is divided into three categories such as below 15 years, 15-59 years and above 60 years. The map of age and sex pyramid has been prepared to highlights the age and sex attribute of the Gujjaran Mohalla. Sex ratio is calculated as number of females per thousand males. Dependency ratios have been computed with the help of under mentioned formula:

$$DR = \frac{P_{14} + P_{60}}{P_{15-59}} * K$$

Where, DR is dependency ratio, P 14, P 60 and P15-59 denote the population in the age groups 0-14, 60 and above and 15-59 respectively, K = 100.

The work force in the present study includes both the main and marginal workers. According to Census of India, 2001, the main worker is one who has worked for 183 days or more in a year in one or more than one economic activity. On the basis of their economic activities (workers' occupation), the workers are classified into following categories i.e. Govt. Job, Private Job, Businessman, Cultivator, Live-stock rearing and labours. Per capita monthly income has been calculated at household level by dividing the total household income with the total population of respective households. In order to assess variations in per capita monthly income within mohalla at household level, the per capita monthly income has been categorised, i.e. very low (below Rs. 1000), low (Rs.1000-3000) moderate (Rs. 3000 - 5000), high (Rs. 5000 - 7000) and very high (Rs. 7000 and above). Absolute data of above mentioned indicators are transferred into percentage through percentage techniques and inserted into tables. Results are derived by analysing the tables.

VII. LEVEL OF LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Table 1 reveals the level of literacy and gender disparity index in the Gujjaran Mohalla. It is evident that about 75.34 percent population is literate. Comparatively, gender literacy rate is in favour of females (literate's male and female i.e. 64.56 percent and 79.72 percent respectively). Interesting to note is that the study area has exhibited low literacy rate as compare to Hisar city but female literacy is very high.

Table 1 Gujjaran Mohalla Level of Literacy Oct. 2014 (in percentage)				
Caste	Total	Male	Female	Disparity Index
Gujjar	73.14	75.80	69.56	0.06
Hisar City	79.89	82.20	62.25	0.19

Table 2
Gujaran Mohalla
Level of Educational Development
Oct. 2014
(in percentage)

	Total	Male	Female	Disparity Index
Pre-Primary	10.75	8.51	14.06	-0.23
Primary	13.92	17.02	9.37	0.28
Middle	20.88	21.27	20.31	0.02
Matric	22.78	25.53	18.75	0.15
10+2	12.02	11.7	12.05	-0.03
Higher Education	19.60	18.06	21.87	-0.09

Table 2 provides an overview of the distribution of persons by educational attainment and gender disparity index. It is a good indication of educational development in the Gujuran Mohalla that 19.60 percent literates have got higher educational level (graduation and post-graduation) followed by Matric (22.78 percent), Middle (20.88 percent). About 12.02 percent of literates are observed as literates with 10+2 level. The lowest proportion of literates is observed in pre-primary school education i.e. only 10.75 percent. It is also evident that there is no gender disparity in 10+2 and higher education level. The above discussions indicate the good social status of women of Gujuran Mohalla in the society.

VIII. AGE AND SEX STRUCTURE

The age and sex composition is fundamental to every population study. Age and sex are the basic characteristics or biological attributes of any community which affect not only its demographic but also its social, economic and political structure, for they influence birth and death rates, internal and related attributes (Bhinde and Kanitkar, 1988:120).

Table 3
Gujaran Mohalla
Distribution of Population by Age And Sex Groups
Oct. 2014 (In Percentage)

Cast e	Below 15 years			15-59 years			Above 60 years		
	TP	M	F	TP	M	F	TP	M	F
Gujja r	23.65	24.54	22.81	70.56	71.17	69.59	4.79	4.29	7.60

Source: Primary Survey

Table 3 indicates the age specific distribution of population in the Gujjarn Mohalla. The population has grouped into three age group categories i.e. below 15 years, 15-59 years above 60 years. About 70.56 percent of total population of the mohalla is observed in the age group 15-59 years. The proportion of males and female are about 71.17 and 69.59 percent respectively. The age group below 15 years comprises about 23.65 percent of total population in the mohalla in which the proportions of males and females are 24.54 and 22.31 percent respectively. Comparatively, the proportion of

above 60 years population is very low i.e. only 4.79 percent in which the share of females (7.60 percent) are more.

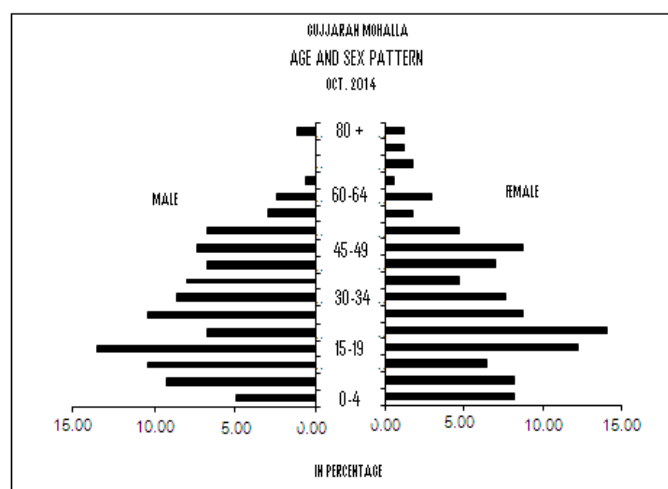


Fig 2

Fig. 2 reflects the various characteristics of age and sex attributes in the mohalla. The number of dependent in children age group is much more than older dependent age group. In near future, it is very good sign for mohalla economy because population below 25 years entering in to working categories are in significant proportion of the total population than those who will retire from working category. It is also good indication that about 35 percent population is in between 20 to 40 years age group. Concluding by the age and sex pyramid shows that birth rate have started to decreasing with balance in sex, yet will have to necessary to reduce it more by family planning in near future.

IX. PATTERN OF SEX RATIO OF SEX RATIO

The balance between the sexes is an important aspect of population structure. The sex composition in a population at a given instant is the result of preceding hundred years births, deaths and migration (Lewis, 1965:73).

Table 4
Gujaran mohalla
Pattern of Sex Ratio
Oct. 2014 (In Percentage)

Caste	Female Per Thousands Males	
	< 6 Years	Over all
Gujjar	1250	953

Source: Primary Survey

It is observed from table 4 that there are 953 females per thousand males in the mohalla. It is interesting to note that the Gujuran Mohalla has shown good sex ratio as compare to city level that is 872 females per thousand males in 2011. Table also reveals that below 6 years age group, a positive sex ratio (1250 females per thousand males) is found in the mohalla (at city level, it is 851 in 2001).

X. DEPENDENCY RATIO

Dependency Ratio is an indicator of the pressure of dependent population on working population any region. Hence, higher dependency ratios signify the lower level of economic development. The analysis of data reveals that about 39.75 percent of total population is dependent on working age population in the Mohalla.

XI. WORK PARTICIPATION RATE

The census of India divides the population into two categories i.e. workers and non-workers on the basis of their engagement in gainful employment. According to 1991 census, workers are also classified into categories i.e. main workers and marginal workers.

Table 5 displays that the work participation rate (main worker) is about 26.94 percent in the Gujjaran mohalla. However, there is a significant difference between males and females with regards to work participation rate i.e. 47.46 percent and 7.87 percent respectively.

Table 5 Gujjaran Mohalla Distribution of Workers by Work Participation Rate Oct. 2014 (In Percentage)			
Caste	Total	Male	Female
Gujjar	26.94	47.46	7.87

XII. OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE

The occupation of an individual refers to his trade, profession and type of work. The occupational composition of a society is a product of a number of intimately related factors. Advancement of science and technology introduces an element of specialization in the occupational structure by creating highly specialized type of jobs (Chandna, 1998). Occupational structure has been categorized into three types as primary, secondary and tertiary activities.

Table 6 exhibits that about 60.61 percent of workers of Gujjar caste are engaged in tertiary economic activities including majority of them are in Govt. Job (36.36 percent) followed by Private Job and Business. Remaining 39.39 percent workers are engaged in primary activities with majority of labours (27.27 percent) followed by Live-stock rearing (9.09 percent) and cultivator. But interesting to note is that the share of female's workers in govt. Service (40 percent), Private Job (30 percent) and Live-stock rearing (20 percent) is high as compare to their male counterparts.

Table 6 Gujjaran Mohalla Distribution of Workers by Occupational Structure Oct. 2014 (In Percentage)			
Types of Occupation	Total	Male	Female
Govt. Service	36.36	35.71	40.00
Private Job	19.70	17.86	30.00

Business	4.55	5.36	0.00
Cultivator	3.03	3.57	0.00
Live- Stock Rearing	9.09	7.14	20.00
Labour	27.27	30.36	10.00
Total	26.94	47.46	7.87

Source: Primary Survey

XIII. INCOME PATTERN

Economic well-being has been a very important aspect of study in social geography. Per capita income is considered a good measure of well-being (National Human Development Report, 2001:33).

Table 7 shows the pattern of per capita monthly income of Gujjar caste. The per capita monthly income in the mohalla is Rs. 3598 which is very low as compare to Haryana i.e. Rs.10221 in 2012-13. In order to assess variations in per capita monthly income within mohalla at household level, it has been viewed with respect to five categories, i.e. very low (below Rs. 1000), low (Rs.1000-3000) moderate (Rs. 3000 - 5000), high (Rs. 5000 - 7000) and very high (Rs. 7000 and above) per capita monthly income.

It is observed from table 9 that nearly one-fourth of surveyed household of the mohalla have moderate per capita monthly income while highest proportion of households (34.04 percent) are included in the categories of low per capita monthly income. About 14.89 percent households are observed with very high income while the do share of households are with high income. Only 12.76 percent households are included in the category of very low income.

Table 7 Gujjaran Mohalla Distribution of Households by Per Capita Monthly Income October 2014		
Per Capita Monthly Income (Rs.)	Number of household	Households in percentage
below 1000	6	12.76
1000-3000	16	34.04
3000-5000	11	23.40
5000-7000	7	14.89
7000 and above	7	14.89

Source: Primary Survey

The overall income pattern indicates the moderately low economic status of people of the mohalla.

XIV. CONCLUSION

In nutshell, Gujjars have shown good social development and moderate to low economic development. Inspite of significant diversification in case of occupational structure, they have shown very low level of social interaction with other castes in the society.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Ahmad, A. (1999): *Social Geography*. Rawat Publications, Jaipur and New Delhi, p. 189.
- [2]. Bhatia, S.P. and Kumar, S. 1987. Haryana District Gazetteers, Hisar. Haryana Gazetteers Organization, Chandigarh.
- [3]. Bhinde, A. and Kanitkar, T., 1998. *Principles of Population studies*. Himalaya Publishing House, Bombay.
- [4]. *Census of India*, 1991. Published by The Government of Haryana, Chandigarh
- [5]. *Census of India*, 2001. Households Amenities In Haryana. Government of Haryana, Chandigarh.
- [6]. Chandna, R.C., 1998. *Geography of population: Concepts, Determinants and pattern*. Kalyani Publishers, New Delhi.
- [7]. Government of India, 2001. *National human development report*, Ministry of human Resource, New Delhi.
- [8]. Kulkarni, P. M., 2002. *Interstate Variations in Human Development Differential Among Social Group in India*. National Council of Applied Economics Research, New Delhi.
- [9]. Kundu, A. and Rao, J. M., 1985. *Inequality in Educational Development: Issues in Measurement Changing Structure and its Socio-Economic Correlates with Special Reference to India*. In *Educational Planning: A Long Term Perspective*, ed. Moonish Raja, New Delhi.
- [10]. Lewis, 1965. *Population Problems*, Tata McGraw Hill, New Delhi.