



PROBLEMS AMONG DALIT FAMILIES: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT

KEYWORDS:
Dalit, Problems, Challenges, Families.

The main aim of the present study is to examine the problems among dalit families. In this study convenience sampling designs are selected. Convenience sampling is obtained by selecting convenient population being investigated which is selected neither by probability nor by judgment but by convenience. In the present study a sample size of 120 Dalit families. For this purpose statistical tools like, mean, percentage, correlation coefficient have been used. It is observed in the study that, seventy years after independence, dalits are suffering from landlessness, unemployment, Nutrition, lack of communication, therefore, in this regard governments and other welfare corporations has to make serious efforts for upliftment of dalits economically

INTRODUCTION

Dalit, once known as ‘untouchables’ or ‘out’ have faced brutal oppression on Indian subcontinent for thousands of year, they won civil rights and affirmative action provisions in the struggle for Indian independence from Britain. But now, under economic pressure of corporate globalization and resulting rise in religious fundamentalism they are under renewed attack. The National Crime Records Bureau of India (NCRBI) reports ‘every hour- Two dalits are assaulted; every day- Three dalit women are raped, two dalit houses are burnt. But inspiring support protest movement is fighting back and winning international support. Despite more access to education, better household amenities and increased incomes, the economic gap between upper castes and dalit and tribal communities continues unchanged over the years. According to latest economic data from the NSSO, a comparison of average monthly expenditure of householders belonging to dalit communities with upper castes households showed that, the rural areas, there was a gap of about 38 percent in 1999-2000, which changed only marginally to 37 percent in 2011-12. In urban area upper castes households reported incomes that were 65 percent more than dalit households in 1999-2000, this gap reduced to a still shocking 60 percent in 2011-12. (Subodh Varma)

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

P Srithar, N bairani (2016)¹ Studied Socio Economic Status of Dalit in India. In India, as per 2011 census people belonging to various scheduled castes recorded nearly 20.14 crore which is 16.6 percent of total population. The 2001 census recorded 16.66 crore. But they are positioned at the bottom of the Indian caste society. Less than 10% of Dalit households can afford safe drinking water, electricity and toilets, which is

indicative of their terrible social condition. Dalits were paid lower wages than other workers. They were also subjected to much longer working hours, delayed wages, verbal and even physical abuse. The socio- economic status of Dalits has to be improved. They have to be given equal recognition in the society.

Sobin George (2015)² Caste and Care: Is Indian health Care delivery system fourable for dalit? The study examines whether the dalit castes are adequately represented in the health service system in rural India in the context of the already established caste based discrimination in service delivery. Drawing from official data, the paper shows an overall domination of non-dalits in healthcare services. The paper presents two scenarios to understand it further. First is the similarities in health disparities between SCs and non-SC/STs of Bihar and Tamil Nadu, which have huge presence of non SC/STs in significant positions of healthcare delivery. Second is the case of Andhra Pradesh (undivided), which has less intergroup disparities and better distribution of health personnel from dalit castes at all levels of health services. These cases confirm the persistence of unfavourable environments for dalits with the domination of non-dalits in health services.

Er. H R Phonsa Jammu (2015)³ Socio Economic Status of Dalit women across Indian metropolitan, Urban and Rural Societies. The study focused on present status of Dalit women and Modern Challenges of Dalit Women. It reveals that, A dalit women is strong to face life odds and needs level grounds to show her capabilities. Dalit women needs feeling of belongingness as per saying of Mata Savitribai Phule “Till such time we don’t understand that we are children of only one creator it will difficult to understand his grace”.

Subodh Varmal (2015)⁴ Examined Economic gap between Upper castes and Dalit Perists. Despite more access to education, better household amenities increased incomes, the economic gap between upper castes, Dalit and Tribal Communities continues unchanged over the years. The researcher used the latest economic data from NSSO for the study. The study identified that, there is no direct survey of income in India; monthly household expenditure is seen as a proxy measure of monthly income for most households except the very rich.

Anek Lal Barman (1962)⁵, Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Caste people in Kamrup District of Assam. The Indian society is based on a caste system with vast inequalities in social, political, economic and educational spheres. The constitution of India is enriched with several provisions for scheduled castes to safeguard and promote their cultural, social, educational, and economic Interests in order to bring them in the mainstream of the society. This paper attempts the Socio-economic status of the scheduled caste people in Kamrup district of Assam. The present study has been conducted on a purposive sampling of 100 scheduled caste people. The data has been collected through field survey. The results revealed that the socio-economic status of scheduled caste people is low.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To understand the present status of the dalit families.
2. To examine the problems among dalits.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study convenience sampling designs are selected. Convenience sampling is obtained by selecting convenient population being investigated which is selected neither by probability nor by judgment but by convenience. In the present study a sample size of 120 Dalit families was taken from various villages viz. T N Kote, Ivarahalli, Nagenahalli, Thimmalapura, Y N Hoskote, Thimmammanahalli of Pavagada Taluk, Tumkur District. For this purpose statistical tools like, mean, percentage, correlation coefficient have been used.

ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION

In our society scheduled castes and scheduled tribes constitute deprived sections. They are denied their due rights and freedom. Dalits are facing several challenges with respect to their economic development. In this section researcher has examined various challenges or problems facing among dalits. Some of the challenges or problems like material deprivation, landlessness, educational background, employment and government services, indebtedness and bonded labour, health and nutrition, lack of communication and atrocities have been taken in the study. It can be observed in the study that (see table 1), majority of the respondent very strongly agreed that, landlessness (i.e 70.83%), Employment and government services (i.e. 54.17%), Health and Nutrition (i.e. 69.17%), Lack of communication (i.e. 52..50%) are major problems of dalits with respect to their economic development. 33.33% of the respondent said that, material deprivation is minor problem, 53.33% of people strongly agreed that, atrocities is the major challenge among dalits. Majority of the dalits considered indebtedness and bondedlabour are major problems with percentage of 75. Further to know significant variation in various challenges among dalit families chi square test has been employed. The calculated χ^2 value is greater than critical value ($2567.05 > 41.33$) at 5% level of significance. In this case null hypothesis should not be rejected, therefore, it can be concluded that, there is a significant difference in challenges among dalit families. Further, to find the significance association among various challenges correlation coefficient is calculated, from the table-2, it can be seen that, there is high degree of positive association between landlessness with educational background, employment and government services, indebtedness and bonded labour, health and nutrition, lack of communication and atrocities (i.e. r , 0.896, 0.632, 0.992, 0.961) and also high degree of positive correlation between educational background with employment and government service, Indebtedness, health and nutrition, lack of communication atrocities with r 0.795, 0.878, 0.694, 0.805, 0.681. therefore it is proved that, landlessness, Educational background, Indebtedness, health and nutrition, lack of communication, atrocities are the major challenges of dalit with respect their economic development.

Table-1: Problems with respect to economic development among dalit families

Particulars	Very Strongly	Strongly	Moderately	Minor	Not a Problem	Total
material deprivation	10	15	20	40	35	120
	8.33	12.50	16.67	33.33	29.17	100
Landlessness	85	20	5	5	5	120
	70.83	16.67	4.17	4.17	4.17	100
Educational Background	40	32	33	15	0	120
	33.33	26.67	27.50	12.50	0.00	100
Employment and Government Services	65	42	12	1	0	120
	54.17	35.00	10.00	0.83	0.00	100
Indebtedness and bonded labour	43	48	23	6	0	120
	35.83	40.00	19.17	5.00	0.00	100
Health and nutrition	83	27	6	4	0	120
	69.17	22.50	5.00	3.33	0.00	100
Lack of communication	63	26	20	7	4	120
	52.50	21.67	16.67	5.83	3.33	100
Atrocities	25	64	28	3	0	120
	20.83	53.33	23.33	2.50	0.00	100

Source: primary data

χ^2	2563.055
Df	28
Sig($\alpha=0.05$)	

Table-2: Correlation matrix:

Particulars	material deprivation	Landlessness	Educational Background	Employment and Government Services	Indebtedness and bonded labour	Health and nutrition	Lack of communication	Atrocities
material deprivation	1.000							
Landlessness	-0.698	1.000						
Educational Background	-0.879	0.620	1.000					
Employment and Government Services	-0.894	0.896	0.795	1.000				
Indebtedness and bonded labour	-0.928	0.632	0.878	0.905	1.000			
Health and nutrition	-0.762	0.992	0.694	0.944	0.724	1.000		
Lack of communication	-0.851	0.961	0.805	0.948	0.780	0.979	1.000	
Atrocities	-0.745	0.191	0.681	0.605	0.877	0.311	0.388	1

Source: Compiled from Table-32

CONCLUSION

It is observed in the study that, seventy years after independence, dalits are suffering from landlessness, unemployment, Nutrition, lack of communication, therefore, in this regard governments and other welfare corporations has to make serious efforts for upliftment of dalits economically

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