

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE OF HAJAM (THAKUR) COMMUNITY IN DHALKEBAR AND SAKHUWA MAHENDRANAGARVDC OF DHANUSHADISTRICT

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Abstract

Nepal is a land of multi-ethnic, multi-religious and Multi lingual country located on the Southern lap of the Himalayas. There are 125 numbers of identified ethnic groups in Nepal. Numerically, the Hajam (Thakur) lies between 33rd ethnic groups. When the people arose on the earth, the Hajam (Thakur) also appeared with them. The term 'Nai' (Hajam/Thakur) derived from Sanskrit Language where there is synonymous term 'Napitah'. According to Navik Puran 'Nai' has ben originated from 'Navik Dev'. From the ancient time they cut Darhi, Moochchha, and Hair, and then only people look smart and attractive in their face. Therefore, Hajam (Thakur) is called the "Symbol of Civilization". Hajam is also called very faithful person in the world. It is a legendry that God Vishnu gave the birth of 'Nai' from his naval. The total population of Hajam / Thakur was 98169 (2001) represents 0.43% and 117758 (2011), represents 0.44% of the total. The total population of Hajam in Dhalkebar was 91 (2001) and 114 (2011) and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar was 126 (2001) and 282 (2011). The main objective of this paper is to deal with ecological condition and population perspectives. This study is based on primary as well as secondary original data, which was collected door to door by every household in the study area.

Keywords

Southern lap; ethnic groups; earth; ancient; symbol of civilization; faithful; naval

Introduction

Nepal is a beautiful garden of 'Four Varna Thirty-six Castes' unified by the Nation maker Prithvi Narayan Shah. Nepal is a land of multi ethnic, multi-religious and multilingual country located on the southern lap of the Himalayas. There are 125 number of ethnic groups scattered over different areas

of the country .They have their own culture, tradition, beliefs and social values. Hajam (Thakur) is one of them. The caste/ethnicity group effected from the census 1961. But it is matter of sorrow that census 1961. Hajam caste /ethnicity have been taken only in the census 2001, when 103 castes group were identified. The total population of Hajam /Thakur was 98169 (51617 male and 46552 female)

represent 0.43% of the total population of Nepal according to the census 2001 and 117758 in 2011. Total population of Hajam /Thakur in Dhanusha district was 12745 (male 6596 and female 6449) represents 0.055% (2001) of the total population and 15931 represents 0.06% of total population of Nepal 2011. There are 3915 VDC in Nepal, Dhalkebar and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar are one of them. The total population of Hajam in Dhalkebar was 91 (male 46 and female 45) 2001 and 114 (male 61 and female 53) represents 0.87% of the total population (13114) of Dhalkebar 2011. The total population of Hajam in Sakhuwa Mahendranagar was 126 (male 65 and female 61) 2001 and 282 (male 146 and female 136) represents 1.72% of the total population 16387 of Sakhuwa Mahendranagar. In this context, present paper is an attempt to analyze demographic change in the Hajam (Thakur) community with comparative study of two VDC Dhalkebar and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar in Dhanusha district, Nepal.

The main objectives of the paper are the study of ecological condition and population perspectives (size, growth, distribution and composition (age and sex), economic, social, education and occupation) of Hajam (Thakur) community in Dhalkebar and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC in Dhanusha district.

Methods and procedure

The paper is mainly based on Primary data. Secondary data are also used to support it. The census method as well as sampling method has been adopted in the data collection. In this study, questionnaire is used to collect the data. There are 101 VDCs and 1 municipality in Dhanusha district. We take the comparative study of two VDC Dhalkebar and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar. Tables are also used in data analysis. The tools (formula) used in this study are presented below.

- (i) Sex Ratio= $M/F \times 100$
- (ii) Absolute Change= $P_n - P_0$ or $P_2 - P_1$
- (iii) Rate of Growth= $P_t = P_0 (1+r)$

Location of the study area

Dhalkebar is located along the national Highway of Nepal. It lies in the north – west part of Dhanusha district. It is located between Bengadabar, Hariharpur, Naktajhij, Churia range, Bateshwar and Sindhuli district. Dhalkebar lies between 26°52'– 27°3' north latitude and 85°55'–85° 59' east longitudes. It is elongated 19.6 kms north to south and 2.4 kilometer east to west. Its area is 47.04 square kilometers. 60% of the total land area is covered by Churia and Bhabar range and rest 40% is flat and agreeable land. This VDC is drained by three main dry rivers like Sukhajor, Basai and Aurahi originated from Churia hill. It lies in the Sub-tropical climate region, gets 552 mms rainfall in the month of July. The minimum temperature is 4^oc and maximum is 34.8^oc. May, June and July are the hottest month where December and January are the coldest month of this VDC.

Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is the richest VDC in Dhanusha district. It is located along the Dhalkebar –Janakpur Regional Transport Link Road. It lies in the northern –middle part of the district. Sakhuwa Mahendranagar located between Digambarpur, Tarapati and Sirsiya in the east, Bateswar and Shantipur in the west, Nakatajhij and Hariharpur in the north and Sapahi, Ramdaiya and Gopalpur in the south. It lies between 26°49' north to 26°53' north latitude and 85°55' east to 85°59' east longitude. It is elongated 5.4 kms north to south and 3.7 kms east to west. Its area is 20 square kms. This VDC is drained by two main seasonal rivers like Jalad in the east and Aurahi in the west. It is lies in the sub –tropical climate region, gets 525 mms rainfall in the month of July. The Minimum Temperature is 11^oc in December and January and Maximum temperature is 34^oc in May, June and July.

Results and discussions

Ecological conditions of the Study Area

Nepal is a land of multi-ethnic country located between the two large Republican

Country China and Democratic Country India. Dhalkebar is a nodal VDC located on the Southern lap of Churia Hill and Center point of East-west National Highway (Mahendra Rajmarg) of Nepal. Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is located in the Middle West part of the district and centre point of link road between Dhalkebar –Janakpur and Jaleshwar –Bhitthamod, southern border of Nepal. Elevation point of view Dhalkebar is 400’ to 1800’ height above sea level. Basai and Aurahi are the main Drainage of Dhalkebar and Aurahi, Dudhmati, Jalad are the main Drainage of Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC in Dhanusha District. In Dhalkebar VDC where summer rice, sugar-cane, potato, wheat, maize vegetables are the main products. But in Sakhuwa Mahendranagar where winter rice and wheat are the main products. Dhalkebar is flat as well as hilly and rugged topography with agriculture land whereas Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is completely flat agreeable land.

Population aspects of the study area

Population is the natural resources of a country. It is both constructive and destructive powerful element of nature. In the same way population plays a significant role in the development of Dhalkebar and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC in Dhanusha district.

Size and growth of population in study area

Census taking in Nepal stated since 1911. According to the latest census of 2001, Dhalkebar Hajam (Thakur) population was 91 and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar population was 116 (CBS, 2001) .According to 2011, the total population of Hajam in Dhalkebar is 114 and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is 282 (Field Survey, 2011). Absolute Change of population is 23 and 156; population growth rate is 2.53% and 12.38% respectively. Population growth rate of Dhalkebar VDC is medium but Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is very high, because this VDC is developing rapidly. Many people have migrated here from other places.

Absolute change of population

Calculation of absolute change

Absolute Change= $P_n - P_o$

Where, P_n = population at recent period

P_o = population at base period

Dhalkebar VDC	Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC
Absolute Change = $P_n - P_o$	Absolute Change = $P_n - P_o$
= 114-91	= 282-126
= 23	= 156

Population growth of dhalkebar and sakhuwa mahendranagar vdc.

Population growth rate (r) = $P_t - P_o / P_o \cdot t$

Where, r= growth rate

P_t = Population at recent period

P_o = Population at base period

t= time

Dhalkebar VDC	Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC
$r = P_t - P_o / P_o \cdot t$	$r = P_t - P_o / P_o \cdot t$
= 114-91/91.10	= 282-126/126.10
= 23/910	= 156.1260
= 0.0252747.100	= 0.123809.100
= 2.527	= 12.38%
= 2.53%	

Table 1: Size and growth of population Dhalkebar VDC

Year	Population	Absolute change	Growth Rate %
2001	91		
2011	114	23	2.53%

Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC

Year	Population	Absolute change	Growth Rate %
2001	126		
2011	282	156	12.38%

Source:- CBS, 2001 and Field Survey, 2011

Population distribution

Population distribution is uneven. Dhalkebar ward no.6 and 7 have more population than the other wards. Wards no 1 and 9 have no Hajam population. Ward no 1 of Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is densely populated than other wards and ward no 4, 6, and 7 are nil. According to the Field Survey, 2011 is more populated than the census 2001.

Table: 2 Ward wise distribution of population
Dhalkebar VDC .2001-2011
Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC .2001-2011

Ward no	2001	2011	2001	2011
1	-	-	79	215
2	7	8	15	24
3	6	12	5	6
4	5	6	-	-
5	7	10	6	8
6	25	33	-	-
7	22	24	-	-
8	19	21	6	8
9	-	-	15	21
Total	91	114	116	282

Source: CBS, 2001 and Field Survey, 2011.

Population composition

Age structure: - Structural composition of population shows proportion of people at different age group. Visually, a population with more than 48% of the individual below 19 year age is considered young a population with more than 46% individuals between 20-59 year age is considered adult and a population with more than 6.0% individual above 60 year or

more than 48% of the individual below 19 year age is considered young , a population with more than 47% individuals between 20-59 age is considered adult and a population with more than 5.0% individual above 60 year or more is considered old in Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC in Dhanusha district . Structure of population by 10 year age group difference for males and females based on field survey 2011 figures have been presented in table 3

Table 3: Age composition

Age group	Dhalkebar VDC	Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC
	Percentage of population	Percentage of population
Below 19	48	48
20-59	46	47
60 and above	6.0	5.0
Total	100.00	100.00

Source:-CBS, 2001 and Field Survey, 2011

Sex composition

The sex composition of population is expressed by sex ratio. It is calculated as a ratio of total number of males to that of females multiplied by hundred. Thus it is the number of males per hundred females Sex Ratio = M/F x100 and Sex Ratio of Dhalkebar VDC is 102.22 (2001) and 115.09 (2011) sex ratio of Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC is 106.56 (2001) and 107.35 (2011)

Calculation of Sex Ratio

Dhalkebar VDC, 2001

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sex Ratio} &= M/F_{,100} \\ &= 46/45_{,100} \\ &= 102.22 \end{aligned}$$

2011

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sex Ratio} &= M/F_{,100} \\ &= 61/53_{,100} \\ &= 115.09 \end{aligned}$$

Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC, 2001

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sex Ratio} &= M/F_{,100} \\ &= 65/61_{,100} \\ &= 106.56 \end{aligned}$$

2011

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sex Ratio} &= M/F_{,100} \\ &= 146/136_{,100} \\ &= 107.35 \end{aligned}$$

Table 4 : Sex composition

	Dhalkebar VDC		Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC	
	2001	2011	2001	2011
Male	46	61	65	146
Female	45	53	61	136
Sex ratio	102.22	115.09	106.56	107.35

Source: CBS, 2001 and Field Survey, 2011

Economic, social, educational and occupational status of Hajam (Thakur) community

I would like to compare the economic, social, education and occupation of Hajam (Thakur) in the study area. Economic point of view Mahendranagar VDC is highly developed but Dhalkebar is less developed. Because Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is located in the super market area. The total land structure is plain but Dhalkebar is located on the centre point of highway but its large parts area covered by rudge topography with Churia range. Social point of view Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is highly cultured but Dhalkebar is less cultured. In Dhalkebar, there is only one caste (Kushwaha) ruled over the VDC but in Sakhuwa Mahendranagar, there is mixed culture for ruling. Educational point of view literacy rate of Dhalkebar was 58.24 % (CBS, 2001) and 81.57 % (Field Survey, 2011), but literacy rate of Sakhuwa Mahendranagar was 70% (CBS, 2001) and 60% according to Field Survey, 2011. As a whole literacy rate of Dhalkebar is higher than Sakhuwa Mahendranagar. Occupational composition point of view Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is highly developed .Most of the people have gone to foreign countries like –Qatar, Malaysia, Dubai, Iraq, Saudi Arab, and others are in local area for doing business and agriculture. But Dhalkebar is not so developed because only a few people have gone to foreign countries and only a few people are engaged in service. Therefore, earning point of view, the economic status of the Hajam (Thakur) of Dhalkebar VDC is lesser than Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC.

Conclusion

Dhalkebar and Sakhuwa Mahendranagar VDC in Dhanusha district Nepal , the Hajam

(Thakur) community is highly developed in economic , social and educational points of view than the other community. Population growth of Hajam in Sakhuwa Mahendranagar is very high (14.32%) comparison with Dhalkebar VDC (2.53%) Field Survey, 2011. They are very smart and active in all activities. They have gone to earn foreign currency and developed their all activities by their work (hair cutting). They have mainly gone to Qatar, Dubai, Saudi Arab, Iraq, Malaysia and Kathmandu. They are skilled in their occupation and very intelligent in other aspect. They are migrated from other districts of Nepal like Mahottari, Sarlahi, Sirha, and few are migrated from Madhubani (Bihar). Hajam (Thakur) is divided into three categories but only two are important. Abadhya and Kanaujiya are more important than Byahoot. The skilled person takes market area but village people are doing agriculture. Few people are engaged in teaching, few people have got government service and few people have got University teaching. Naturally, they are very co-operative in society .Thus, Hajam (Thakur) Community are scattered all over the nation, where people are living. They mainly speak Maithili, Hindi, Bajjika, Nepali, English, Bhojpuri, and Abadhi. Religious points of view more than 80% are Hindu and rests are Buddhist, Sikha, Jain, Christian etc. Hajam (Thakur) are Tarai Hindu Aryan as like as Vaisya group.

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