

94

Dr. A. Pathare  
UGC  
2019-20

8

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF TRIBAL POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS  
AT KHAMBALE VILLAGE, NASHIK**

Anilkumar R. Pathare, Department of Geography, RNC Arts, JDB Commerce and NSC Science College, Nashik, Maharashtra, India. Email: anilkumarpathare202@gmail.com

Jyoti A. Pathare, Department of Geography, HPT Arts and RYK Science College, Nashik Maharashtra, India. Email: jpathare23@yahoo.com

**Abstract:**

The present paper has undertaken to study tribal population characteristics at micro and macro levels and an attempt has been made to assess, analyze, describe, and interpret the tribal population characteristics. The main aim of the paper is to study the socio-economic dimensions of the tribal population of Khambale village of Nashik district. The primary and secondary data has been used for this research work, primary data collected by field survey. The demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the tribal population of Khambale village have been studied to find out the problems of these populations. The study reveals that the literacy rate of the tribal population is low (50.29 %) and engaged in primary activities. The tribal population faces problems such as poverty, alcohol addictions, low standard of living, etc. 36 % of families are unsatisfied with their socio-economic conditions. This study may be helpful for planning and development of tribal community and to mitigate the socio-economic inequality.

**Key Words:** Socio-economic, Tribal, Characteristics, Inequality

**Introduction**

The spatial patterns of population characteristics and occupational structure of tribal in Nashik district has variation. To assess population and socio-economic characteristics requires an in-depth study of villages in Nashik district. A study of every village under the study area is practically difficult and time-consuming. Hence, a sample survey has carried out in the tribal area of Nashik district considering geographical location, physiography, demographic characteristics, and socio-economic conditions of tribal.

**Study Area**

Nashik is a tribal-dominated district in Maharashtra state covering 15530 Km<sup>2</sup> area. There are 1929 villages and 18 towns (Census, 2011). Considering the vast extent of the study area and a huge number of villages, Khambale village which is located in Igatpuri tahsil has been selected for the present study.

**Khambale Village**

This village lies in western ghat in Igatpuri tahsil and it is extended for 19° 43' N. latitude and 73° 37' E. longitude. It is located 11 kilometers away from Igatpuri and 40 kilometers from Nashik city. Khambale village has to moderate topography on hilly slopes and valleys with an altitude of 598 meters from mean sea level.

The village covers 811 hectares and is confined by Manik Khamb in the north, Umbarkon in the east, Ghoti in south, Adwan is in southwest and Waki village in the west. As per Census, 2001, the village has a 3309 population having a density of 408 persons per square kilometer. The schedule tribal accounts 55.87 percent population.

### Data Collection and Organization

There are various sources and steps involved in the collection and organization of primary data. A survey of 100 households from Khambale village was conducted by giving questionnaires and questions have asked on households, religion, migration, health, education, occupational characteristics, income sources, their expectations, and problems. Thus, information obtained through interviews by filling up questionnaires. The secondary data regarding population characteristics have gathered from District Census Handbook (2011) and land use types, irrigation and crops as well as from Village Revenue Record and Grampanchayat office. The analyzed data has been represented by different cartographic techniques and graphical methods.

### Choice of Sampling

The sample villages were selected by purposive sampling method based on tribal population size (consist 56 % tribal population). To identify location and village boundaries both topographical and cadastral maps have used. The location of the village is shown in

### Physical Characteristics

The topography of Khambale village is highly undulating and slopping towards the east and northeast. The north and west parts are hilly, undulating, and have uneven slope and plain in the east part. Darna river is formed the eastern boundary of this village and flow towards the north. Forest patches lying north and east parts on hill slope accounting 12 percent area. Khambale receives rainfall of more than 3000 millimeters from June to October. Soil is red and black. Black soil appears in the east along Darna river bank and red soil found on hill slopes in this village.

### Demographic Characteristics

This village has a 3309 population consisting of 512 households (2001). 549 population have separate (nuclear) families and are found to distinguish groups of Katkari, Mahadev Koli, and other categories in this village. Each group has separate settlements are known as 'Padas' with a distinct culture. Table 1 exhibits that out of 549 surveyed population 281 are males and 268 are females. The sex ratio is 954.

Table 1: Population Characteristics in Khambale Village

Particulars	Person / Percent	Particulars	Person / Percent
Male Population	281	Less than 7 Age Population	44
Female Population	268	0-14 Age Population	142
Persons Population	549	15-60 Age Population	386
Married Population	308	More than 60 Age Population	21
Unmarried Population	241	Literacy in percent	50.29

Literate Population	254	Crude Activity Rate	70.30
Illiterate Population	251	Crude Birth Rate	0.91
Population Density	408	Crude Death Rate	0.91
Sex-ratio	954		

Source: Fieldwork, 2013.

The male accounts 51.18 percent than the female (48.82 percent) population which indicates an imbalance in male-female proportion (Fig.2). 71.31 percent population belongs to the economically active age group, child (25.87), and old age group (3.83) that are resulting in a high crude activity rate in the study area.

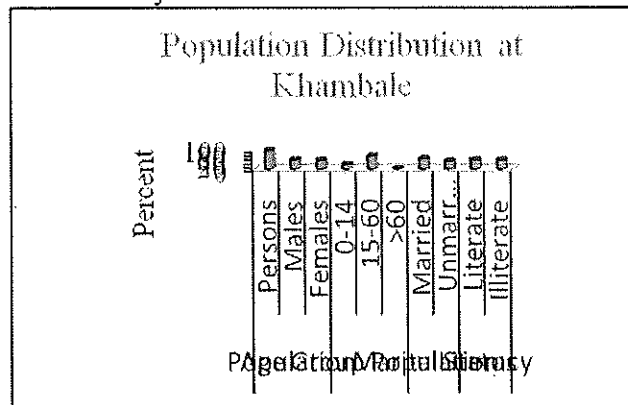


Fig. 2: Population Distribution at Khambale

An age-sex structure expresses the triangular shape of the pyramid shows the developing stage and has less life expectancy. The proportion of married person accounts (56.10 percent). Literacy is 50.29 percent in this village. The crude birth is and death rate are equal (0.91). Thakur and Mahadev Koli are major tribes comprise of 65.66 and 27.95 percent respectively (Fig.3).

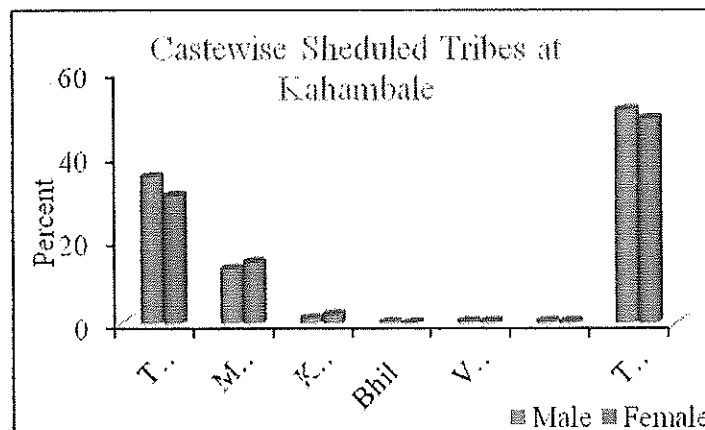


Fig. 3: Caste-wise Scheduled Tribes at Khambale

Table 2: Sizes of Household at Khambale

Number of Rooms	Households	Area of Households (Square feet)	Households
1	34	<100	24
2	46	100-200	50
3	16	200-300	16
4	1	300-400	7
>5	2	>400	3

Source: Fieldwork, 2013.

Table 2 exhibits households, size, and number of rooms in Khambale village. 80 percent of households have 2 rooms and 74 percent household size is less than 200 square feet. 96 households are using wood as fuel for cooking and 16 households consume LPG and other fuels (Fig. 4). 76 houses provide electric facility and power cutting is up to 8 hours during the day. 38 households possess phones and televisions and are lacking in other articles. Less than 10 percent of households, have lacking refrigerator, washing machine, cooking gas, sewing machine, two-wheeler, vehicles (Fig. 5). There are 29 households found absent above articles in their houses indicating a low standard of living and poverty.

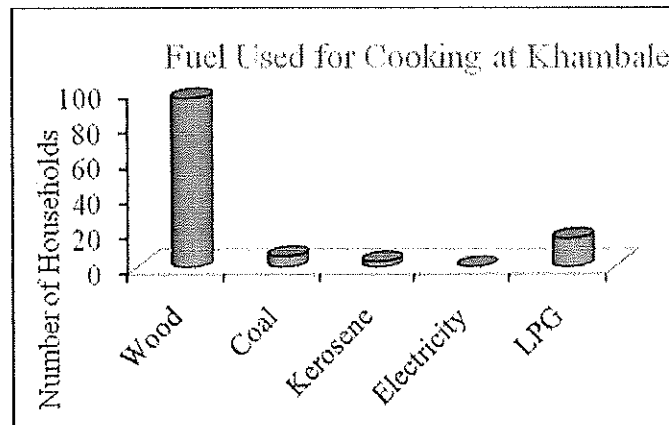


Fig. 4: Fuel Used for Cooking at Khambale

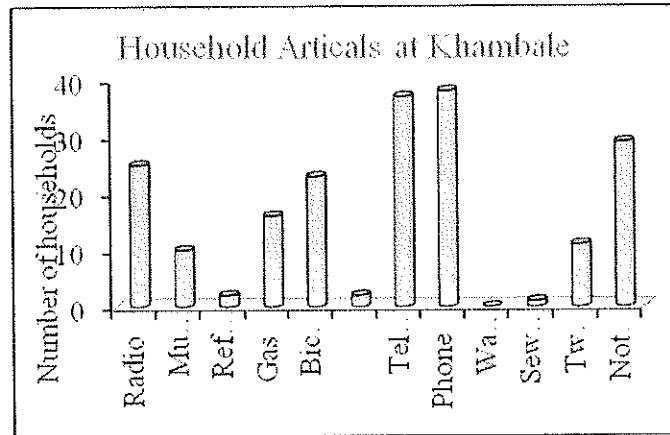


Fig. 5: Households Articals at Khambale

### Landuse Characteristics

The topography of this village is highly uneven and the perennial water source is limited in the village. The area covered by forest (12 %), 70 % area is cultivated and only 3 %accounts irrigated area (Table 3).

Table 3: Landuse of Khambale Village

Sr. No.	Landuse Category	Area in Percent	Sr. No.	Landuse Category	Area in Percent
1	Forest Land	12	4	Cultivable Waste	4
2	Irrigated Land	3	5	Area not Available for Cultivation	9
3	Cultivated Land	70			

Source: District Census Handbook, Nashik 2001.

9 percent area is unavailable for cultivation and 4 percent is for cultivable waste. The area under forest found in the northwest part on hills and is non-useful for cultivation. Darna river is a source of water for drinking and less for irrigation (3 percent). Irrigated land is mainly found in the east towards the riverside.

### Occupational Characteristics

Tribal people of Khambale are engaged in primary activities. There are 58 percent tribals agriculture, 38 percent work as laborers, 3 percent in the service sector, and one percent is business. The maximum 64 percent tribals have marginal landholding having less than 1-acre land (Fig. 6 and Table 4) whereas 21 percent of households are landless.

Table 4: Landholding in Khambale Village

Land Size (Acres)	Households	Land Size (Acres)	Households
<1	64	5 to 10	1
1 to 3	9	>10	0
3 to5	5	None	21

Source: Fieldwork, 2013.

The income is less and most of the agriculture. Irrigation facility is inadequate hence, tribals prefer to work as laborers. Tribal people are found unaware of using technology in their farms. Irrigation by well, tubewell, and river used by 32 percent of households. The tribal people now started using chemical fertilizers besides pesticides for crop growth. Fig.7 exhibits 87 households have an annual income of less than 1 lakh. Poverty is a major problem due to insignificant land holding, less irrigation, and unemployment. Tribals cultivate traditional crops like rice and nagali accruing less annual income. 37 percent of families are dissatisfied in their present occupation due to insufficient capital available for agriculture.

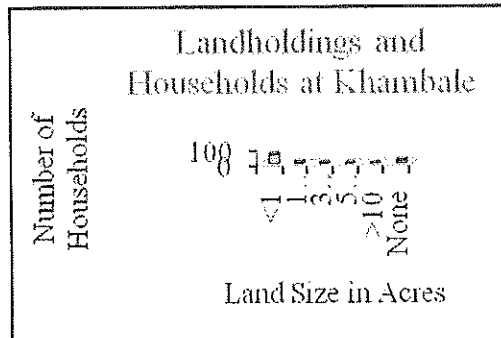


Fig.6: Landholding and Households at Khambale

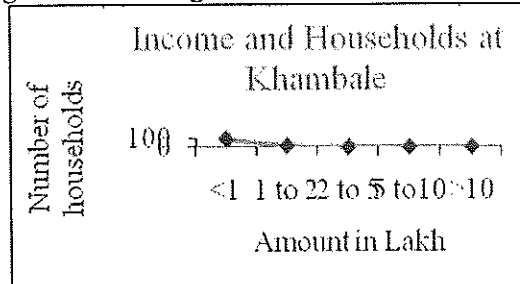


Fig. 7: Income and Households at Khambale

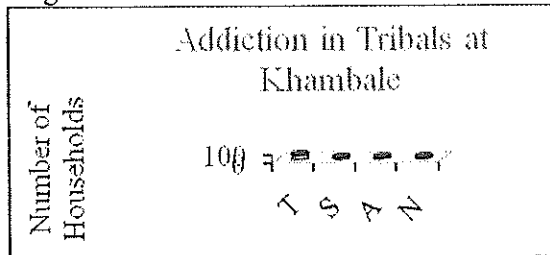


Fig 8: Addiction in Tribals at Khambale

The village has two primaries, one secondary school and one Adivasi Ashram school within a 3-kilometer radius. Higher education is available at tahsil headquarter Igatpuri and Ghoti. The tribals have 50.29 percent literacy in 2013. Though there is availability of education facilities literacy among tribes is less. The steps to create awareness among tribal people should be initiated for further imparting education. Addiction to alcohol is a problem among 65 percent family and addictions of chewing tobacco, smoking by 31 percent, and drinking alcohol (30) (Fig.8) This adversely affects the health and family welfare. The poverty, alcohol addictions, illiteracy problems found among tribals. 36 percent of families are unsatisfied with their socio-

economic conditions. 2 families are found immigrant in Khambale whereas two persons have migration to Nashik city for education.

#### **Problems of Village**

During fieldwork following problems associated with tribal population:

- 1) Marginal land size, lack of irrigation, and low crop productivity.
- 2) Water scarcity for cultivation and drinking during the summer season.
- 3) Unemployment during the summer season and Addiction to bad habits.

The 53 percent of tribes expressed their view that the government should provide special economic package for the tribals in this village. There is essential to create awareness about education and implement an employment guarantee scheme for job searchers. Drug eradication centers should motivate to eradicate from drug addiction to tribals in the village.

#### **References**

- Agrahari, K. C., Singh, V. K. and Chandana, V. (2008): "Demographic Study and Sustainable Development of Sonbhadra District, Uttar Pradesh", Uttar Bharat Bhoogol Patrika, Gorakhpur, Vol. 38, No.12, Pp. 107-109.
- Bhat, A. R. (2005) : "Human Resources and Socio-economic Development in Kashmir Valley-A Geographical Interpretation", Dilpreet Publishing House, New Delhi.
- Biswas, R. (2006): "Demographic Study of Primitive Tribes-A Comparative Frame Work", Saad Publications, New Delhi.
- Chandana, R. C. (2002): "Geography of Population", Kalyani Publication, Delhi.
- Chaudhuri, B. (1994): "Social and Environmental Dimensions of Tribal Health", in the edited book of S. Basu, on 'Tribal Health in India', Manak Publications Private Limited, Delhi, Pp.70-83.
- Government of India, ( 2001 & 2011): District Census Handbooks, Nashik District.
- Government of Maharashtra (2013): "Economic Survey of Maharashtra 2012-13", Director of Economics and Statistics, Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai.