



Social Demography of Foothills Villages (A Case Study of Kainchiwala Village, Dehradun (UK)

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Uttarakhand is a predominantly rural state with 16,826 rural settlements, of which 12,699 or 81% have a population of less than 500. In most of the districts, more than 75-85 % of rural settlements have a population of less than 500. Only 17 % of the rural settlements have a population ranging between 500-1999 and the villages with population of 2000 or more are very rare (2.7 %). The small size of settlements and their widespread distribution is a formidable challenge for service delivery in the state of Uttarakhand with such a high percentage of small and scattered hamlets mainly in the tough geographic conditions.

Most of the people of Uttarakhand speak **Indo-Aryan languages**. **Hindi** is the official language of the state. **Hindustani**, which contains words from both Hindi and **Urdu**, is the principal spoken language. Other languages used in Uttarakhand include Garhwali and Kumauni (both **Pahari languages**), **Punjabi**, and **Nepali**. More than four-fifths of Uttarakhand's residents are **Hindu**. **Muslims** constitute the largest religious minority, accounting for about one-tenth of the population. Smaller communities of **Sikhs**, **Christians**, **Buddhists**, and **Jains** make up most of the remainder of Uttarakhand's people.

There are 13 districts in Uttarakhand which are grouped into two divisions— Kumaun and Garhwal.

Out of the 13 districts of the State, 3 are plain districts and the remaining 10 are hill districts. Geographically the state can broadly be divided into three zones, namely—

1. Upper hills — Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Rudraprayag, Pithoragarh and Bageshwar
2. Middle hills — Tehri-Garhwal, Garhwal, Almora, and Champawat, the hill regions of Nainital and Chakrata tehsil of Dehradun
3. Foothills — The remaining area of Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar and the remaining area of Nainital

Objectives

1. To investigate demographic characteristics of foothills villages.
2. To calculate demographic variations on the basis of social status.

Methodology

This is a primary and secondary data based study. Primary data is collected from Kainchiwala village after preparing an interview schedule. Raw data further analyzed by master tables and cross tables of all indicators i.e Population, Age-wise population, Family type, Marital status, Literacy and last one year births and deaths. Secondary data are mainly collected from the reports of the Census of India, National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Registrar General of India etc.

Primary and secondary data analyzed by using some statistical techniques. Results are exhibited with help of tables and diagrams.

Study Area -

Kainchiwala is a village in Sahaspur tehsil in Dehradun district of Uttarakhand state, India. It is located 19 KM towards west from district head quarters Dehradun. 5 KM from Sahaspur. 20 KM from State capital Dehradun. Sahaspur (5 KM), Sherpur (6 KM), Kedarawala (7 KM), Jhajra (7 KM), Sabhawala (8 KM) are the nearby Villages to Kainchiwala.

Kainchiwala is surrounded by Vikasnagar Tehsil towards North, Kalsi Tehsil towards North, Dehradun Tehsil towards East, Raipur Tehsil towards East. Dehradun, Mussoorie, Rishikesh, Cham ba are the nearby Cities to Kainchiwala. This Place is in the border of the Dehradun District and Sirmour District. Sirmour District Paonta Sahib is west towards this place. It is near to the Himachal Pradesh State Border.

Result and Discussion

There are 152 households in Kainchiwala included 48% nucleated, 51% joint and 1% extended. Total population is 536, of which male and female are 49% and 51% respectively. Population is also calculated on the basis of social status in which except artisan castes all three castes (Upper castes, intermediate castes and lower castes) have high sex ratio. (Fig No.1.1). It reveals that village has satisfactory sex ratio.

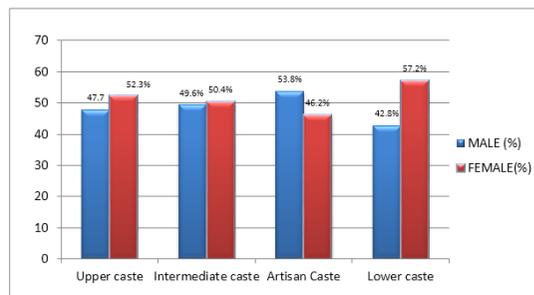


Fig No-1.1 Population on the basis of social status

Table No.-1.1 exhibits male and female population in different age groups. It is very interesting to know that artisan and lower castes have no male and female population and upper and intermediate castes have no female population in below 1 year age group. Low sex ratio is noted in both lower and artisan castes, in the other hand upper and intermediate castes have satisfactory sex ratio among all age groups.

Age group	Below 1 yr.		1-5 yr.		6-14 yr.		15-59 yr.		Above 60 yr.	
	M%	F%	M%	F%	M%	F%	M%	F%	M%	F%
Upper Caste	100	00	66.6	33.4	57.12	42.88	47.05	52.95	42.9	57.1
Intermediate Caste	100	00	47.7	52.3	44.11	55.89	51.85	48.15	50	50
Artisan Caste	00	00	00	00	71.4	28.6	46.6	53.4	100	00
Lower Caste	00	00	00	100	100	00	50	50	50	50

Table No-1.1 population in different age groups

Marital status

A person's marital status indicates whether the person is **married** or **single**. In Kainchiwala 49% married male population and 51% female married population to total married population. Fig. No- 1.2 expresses gender-wise married population in different caste groups. In Upper and intermediate castes female married population is more than male married population. Artisan and lower castes have equal distribution of married population in male or female population.

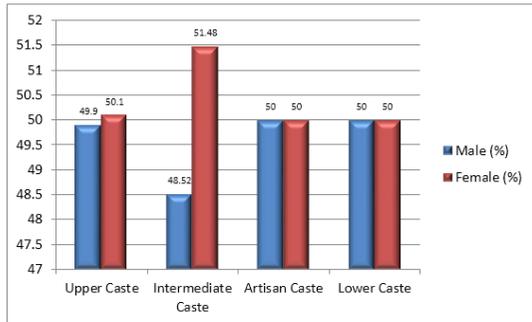


Fig No- 1.2 Marital status on the basis of social status

Literacy

Literacy is a key for socio-economic progress and the Indian **literacy rate** has grown to 74.04% (2011) from 12% at the end of **British rule** in 1947. Average literacy rate of Dehradun district is 84.25%. Male literacy rate is 89.40% and is 78.54% in Dehradun district of Uttarakhand. In study area literacy rate is 65.5% with 73.4% male literacy and 57.6% female literacy. There is huge difference in female literacy rate of Kainchiwala village and Dehradun district.

Fig No-1.3 clearly exhibits that female literate population is less than male literate population in each and every castes groups.

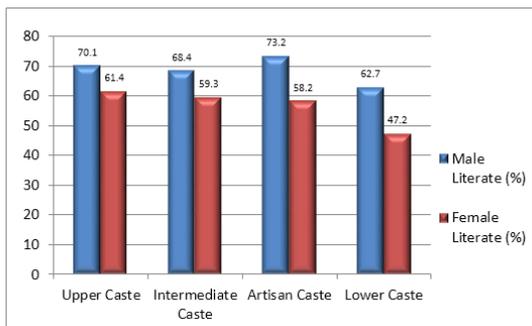


Fig. No. 1.3 Literacy on the basis of social status

Birth and Death

The birth and death rate are two of the most basic and important measures in demography. Present study deals with births and deaths during last one year only. 64% male and only 36% female births are calculated in Kainchiwala during last one year. 60% male and 40% female deaths are also noted during last one year in study area.

Social status	Birth		Death	
	Male %	Female%	Male %	Female%
Upper caste	33	67	100	0
Intermediate caste	75	25	50	50
Artisan upper	0	0	0	0
Lower caste	0	0	0	0

Table No- 1.2 Birth and death on the basis of social status.

Table No- 1.2 exhibited a very surprising picture of birth and death during last one year in study area. It is interesting to know there is no single birth and death in artisan and lower castes during last one year. 33% male and 67% female births in upper caste, 75% male and 25% female births are noted in intermediate castes. Here approximately reverse picture between upper and intermediate castes. In case of death only male deaths (100%) are recorded in upper castes. On the other hand 50% male and 50% female deaths are recorded in intermediate castes.

Conclusion

There is approximately equal distribution of male and female population in Kainchiwala village. Joint family type is dominant rather than nuclear family type. Except artisan castes all three castes (Upper castes, intermediate castes and lower castes) have satisfactory sex ratio. Among all age groups low sex ratio is noted in both lower and artisan castes, in the other hand upper and intermediate castes have satisfactory sex ratio. Approximately equal male and female married population is recorded in all castes group except intermediate caste. Literacy of Kaichiwala village is not satisfactory because huge difference in literacy of Kainchiwala village and Dehradun district. In the same way all caste groups have low literacy rate. Male births are dominant during last one year in all castes groups. Male Deaths are also recorded more than female deaths. It is interesting to know there is no single birth and death in artisan and lower castes during last one year.

After analyzing all indicators it can be concluded that social demography of Kainchiwala is not much satisfactory.