



LIVE BIRTHS IN ASSOCIATION WITH BIO-CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES OF MOTHER: A STUDY ON THE MURIA TRIBE OF BINJHE OF KONDAGAON, CHHATTISGARH

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ABSTRACT In the present study an attempt has been made to examine an association between an average number of live birth and bio cultural attributes of Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon District of Chhattisgarh. Data on live births and bio cultural attributes of Muria women were collected from 100 households of Binjhe Village of Kondagaon District using structured schedule. The majority of Muria mothers are observed illiterate (68.00%) having higher number of an average live birth (3.96) compared to women of other educational level. However women living in electrified houses, joint family and houses of more than seven rooms have shown relatively higher number of an average number of live births as compared to those women living in non electrified houses, nuclear family and houses of less than 7 room. Most of the Muria mothers liked Liquor (57.00%) and tobacco (52.00%) and showing higher number of an average number of live births as compared to mother never liked Liquor and tobacco. Form of mate selection and marriage are also observed associated with live births among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon District. Biological attribute of Muria women are also compared with their live births. The Muria women experienced first mensuration at age of 15 years (4.40) married at 16 years (5.71) and born their first child of 17 years (5.00) indicate relatively higher number of an average live births, however Muria women experienced no abortion (3.77) and born their children in their own houses (4.16) are also observed with higher no. of live births. On the present study it can be concluded that the number of live births of women is influenced by their educational status, occupation status, habitation and biological attributes.

KEYWORDS :

INTRODUCTION

The word "Muria" derived from the root word mur and indicate that Muria are settled. The Muria are an indigenous tribal group inhabiting Kondagaon Narayanpur and Bastar district of Chhattisgarh. The economy of Muria is based on agriculture and collection of minor forest produces. They have an omnivorous diet with liquor (mahua & salfi). They speak Gondi, Halbi, Bhatri and Chhattisgarhi.

The Muria are follow the rules of patrilocal patriarchal and patrilineal and divided in to five phratries know as Nagvans, kacchimvans, Bakravans, Baghvans and Braminhvans. They are not all owed to eat their totem animals. The Muria generally marry late and do not pay dowries. They are not allowed to marry from with in their own clanal though a Muria man may marry his cousin. The Muria people drink a local form of liquor mahua, Salfi, which plays a key role in social and ritual gatherings. The Muria traditionally practice theirfolk religion Nature of worshipping god and deities in their respective village. The Muria have a comb that represents love and friendship. Ghotul is observed an important institution of Muria tribe found in every village and it is believed that sacred place, where never commit sin.

Reproductive life includes the age of women entering age of marriage to age of menopause and is affected by menarcheal age, age of marriage, age of first childbirth and other socio-cultural factors of women. The socio-economic and socio-cultural characteristics of population have tremendous impact on fertility (Spuhler, 1963, 1976, Jorde and Dubize, 1986). A French demographer Henry (1953) stated that natural fertility of human population that makes no deliberate affect to limit of births. The family is considered as the reproductive nuclear of the domestic group (Forte, 1969); However Fathalla (1992) and Cook (1993) have stated that reproductions is the condition in which the reproductive process is accomplished in a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and is not merely the absence of reproductive disease or disorder. A study by Karkal (1975) reveals that an average live births is higher in extended families than nuclear families.

In present paper an attempt has been made to examine the association between bio-cultural attributes of Muria women and their live births.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present study conducted among Muria tribe of Binjhe village of Kondagaon District. The data were collected from Binjhe village of Kondagaon district by using pre-tested structured interview schedule. A total of 100 houses holds were randomly selected and informations on reproductive life along with their bio-cultural characteristics were collected by interviewing ever married women who were alive at the time of investigation. A demographic and household data on age structure, sex composition, age at menarche, age of marriage, age of

first child birth abortion, still birth, family structure and mate selection were collected by following standerd methods. An average number of live births is measured to compare relation with bio-cultural characteristics and live births among the Muria tribe. In present study, menarcheal study, age of marriage, age of first child birth, no of abortion, forms of marriage, mate selection house type and its characteristics, chewing and drinking habits of tobacco and liquor are considered to examine association with live briths among Muria women inhabiting Binjhe village of Kondagaon.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Household is the unit, which describe the group live as family. The bio-cultural characteristics of Muria women is presented in Table 1. It is evident from the table that illiterate women are much more frequent (68.00%) than literate women (32.00%). The frequency of married women educated up to primary level is observed to be 14.8% followed by high school educated women (11.8%) and middle educated women (7.00%).

The occupational status of Muria women shows that majority of women (87.00%) are supported their families as house wife, however 5% of total women are observed with different jobs. Majority of Muria women live in Kachha houses (93.00%) and electrified houses (95.00%). A total of 52% of Muria women are observed with chewing habit of tobacco and 57% women have liked to drink liquor brown of mahua flowers.

Joint family is more prevalent than nuclear family among Muria tribe. The frequency of joint family is observed to be 68.00% as compared to nuclear families (32.00%)

Table 1 Socio-cultural Characteristics Of Women Of Muria Tribe Of Bastar

S. N.	Description	No. of women	%
1.	Educational Status		
	Illiterate	68	68.00
	Primary std	14	14.00
	Middle std.	07	7.00
	High + Higher Secondary	11	11.00
2.	Occupational Status		
	House wife	87	87.00
	Business	08	8.00
	Service	05	5.00
3.	House Type		
	Kachha House	93	93.00
	Pakka House	07	07.00
4.	Family Type		
	Nuclear Family	32	32.00
	Joint Family	68	68.00

5.	Use of Tobacco & Liquor		
	Tobacco	52	52.00
	Liquor	57	57.00
6.	Marriage Type		
	Cross Cousin Marriage	42	42.00
	Other type of Marriage	58	58.00

Distribution of women according to their number of live births is presented in Table 2. 24% of total women are observed with three live births followed by 17% women with four live births, 15% women with one live birth and 11% women with six live births, however 7% of total Muria women born their seven live children. The mean live births is observed to be 3.48 among Muria women. The proportion of women with their live birth is also shown in fig 1.

Table 2 Distribution Of Women According To Number Of Live Births Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

No. of live births	No. of women	%	Total live births
0	2	2.00	0
1	15	15.00	15
2	14	14.00	28
3	24	24.00	72
4	17	17.00	68
5	10	10.00	50
6	11	11.00	66
7	7	7.00	49
Total	100	100.00	348

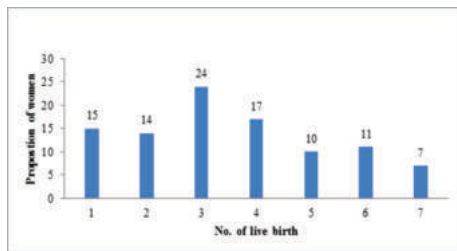


Fig 1. Proportion Of Women With No. Of Live Births.

Table 3 reveal the distribution of live births according to age of women among Muria tribe of Binjhe Kondagaon. It is evident from table that the number of average live births increases with increases in age of women, which shows that there is positive correlation between age of women and their live births. It can also be examine from fig 2.

Table 3 Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of Women Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Age Group	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
20-24	03	03	1.00
25-29	09	17	1.89
30-34	18	43	2.39
35-39	17	55	3.25
40-44	16	62	3.88
45-49	18	74	4.11
50-54	12	57	4.78
55-59	7	37	5.29
Total	100	348	3.48

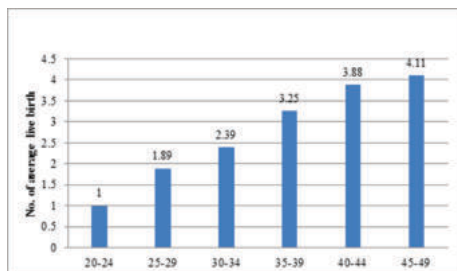


Fig. 2 Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of Muria Women

Distribution of live births according to educational status of women among Muria tribe of Binjhe village is presented in Table 4. Majority of Muria women are observed illiterate (68.00%) followed by primary

level (14.00%) and high & higher secondary level (11.00%). The average live births is found to be higher among illiterate women (3.96) compare to educated women of all level (2.47) among Muria tribe. The present study reveals that there is negative correlation between educational status and live births which can be examine from fig 3.

Table 4 Distribution Of Live Births According To Educational Status Of Women Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Educational status	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
Illiterate	68	269	3.96
Primary	14	45	3.21
Middle	07	11	1.57
Higher Secondary	11	23	2.09
Total	100	348	3.48

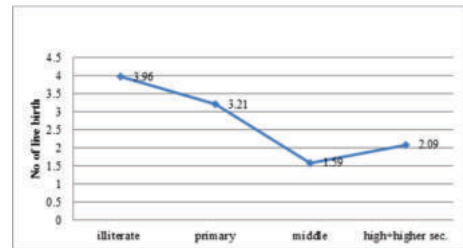


Fig 3. Distribution Of Live Births According To Educational Status Of Muria Women.

Distribution of live births according to occupational status of Muria women is presented in table 5. The average live births is observed higher in house wife (3.60) compare to other occupational level, however the lowest number of live births is found lowest in service class women (2.40). Table 6 exhibits the distribution of live births according to occupational status of husband of Muria women which shows that average live births is relatively higher in agriculture group (3.65) than other occupational groups followed by Business class (2.55) and Service class (2.50). The average number of live births in relation to occupational status of Muria women and their husband is shown in fig 4.

Table 5 Distribution Of Live Births According To Occupational Status Of Women Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Occupational status	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
House wife	87	313	3.60
Business	8	23	2.88
Service	5	12	2.40
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 6 Distribution Of Live Births According To Occupational Status Of Husband Of Women Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Occupational status of husband	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
Agriculture	84	310	3.65
Business	11	28	2.55
Service	04	10	2.50
Total	100	348	3.48

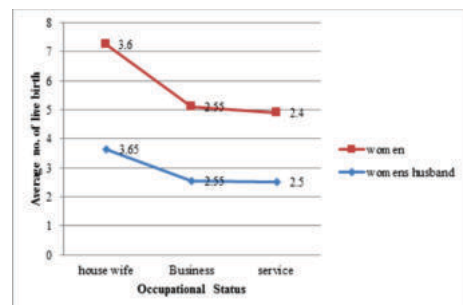


Fig 4. Distribution Of Live Births According To Occupational Status Of Muria Women And Their Husband.

Distribution of live births according to house structure and light facility is presented in table 7 & 8. The average live births is relatively higher among those Muria women living in Kachha houses (3.55) and electrified houses (3.54) compare to women living in Pacca houses (2.57) and non-electrified houses (3.40).

Table 7 Distribution Of Live Births According To House Structure Of Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

House type	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
Kachha house	93	330	3.55
Pacca house	07	18	2.57
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 8 Distribution Of Live Births According To Light Facility Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

No. of houses having light facility	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
houses with light facility	95	331	3.48
houses with No light facility	05	17	3.40
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 9 exhibits the distribution of live births according to number of room among Muria tribe of Binjhe village of Kondagaon. The average number of live births increases gradually with increases number of rooms in the house. The association of live births and number of rooms is presented in fig 5.

Table 9 Distribution Of Live Births According No. Of Rooms Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

No. of rooms	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
< 4	03	04	1.33
4 – 7	83	276	3.33
> 7	14	68	4.86
Total	100	348	3.48

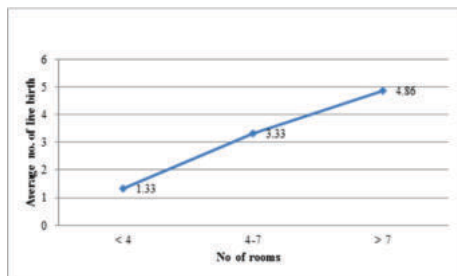


Fig 5. Distribution Of Live Births According To Numbers Of Rooms Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Distribution of live births according to family structure among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon is presented in Table 10. The proportion of women in joint family (67.00%) is observed much more higher than nuclear family (33.00%) and the average number of live births of Muria women indicates its higher magnitude in joint family (4.13) than nuclear family (2.15), which supports the Karkal, 1975 opinion.

Table 10 Distribution Of Live Births According To Family Structure Among Muria Tribe Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Family structure	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
Nuclear family	33	71	2.15
Joint family	37	277	4.13
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 11 exhibits the distribution of live births according to Muria women used liquor of Binjhe village of Kondagaon. The average live births is observed about double among Muria women used liquor (4.31) than those Muria women never used liquor (2.37). However the average number of live births is slightly higher in women liked tobacco (3.63) compare to Muria women never used tobacco (3.31). Table 12.

Table 11 Distribution Of Live Births With Respect To Muria Women Used Liquor Of Binjhe Village In Kondagaon.

Habits	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
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Used liquor	55	247	4.31
Never used Liquor	45	101	2.35
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 12 Distribution Of Live Births With Respect To Muria Women Used Tobacco Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Tobacco Habits	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
Chewing			
Yes	52	189	3.63
No	48	159	3.31
Total	100	348	3.48

Distribution of live births according to cousin marriage among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon presented in Table 13. It is evident from table that the average number of live births is observed relatively higher among women, preferred non consanguineous marriage (3.93) as compared to those Muria women who preferred cousin marriage (2.86). However cousin marriage is preferred by 42.00% Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon.

Table 13 Distribution Of Live Births According To Type Of Marriage Among Muria Women.

Marriage type	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
Consanguineous marriage	42	120	2.86
Non- Consanguineous marriage	58	228	3.93
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 14 reveals the distribution of live births according to age of first menstruation among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon. The majority of women experienced their first menstruation at the age of 13 to 14 years (80.00%). However the average live births indicates its higher magnitude among those women who experienced first menstruation at 15 years of age (4.40) followed by women experience first menstruation at 14th year (4.05). On the basis of present study it may be illustrated that there is positive relationship between live births and age of first menstruation. It can also be observed from fig 6.

Table 14 Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of First Mensuration Among Muria Women Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Menarcheal age	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
11	01	03	3.00
12	09	29	3.22
13	43	122	2.88
14	37	150	4.05
15	10	44	4.40
Total	100	348	3.48

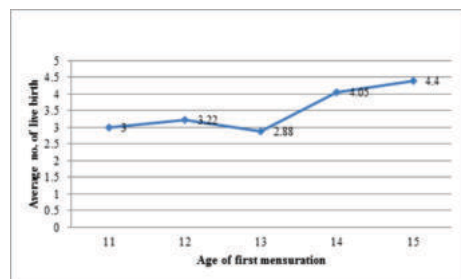


Fig 6. :- Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of First Mensuration Among Muria Women.

Distribution of live births according to age of marriage among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon is presented in Table 15. On the basis of present study that majority of Muria women get marriage between 17 to 19 years (66.00%). The average live births indicates its height magnitude among those women got married at 16th years of age (5.71) and lowest among women married at 22 or more than 22 years of age (3.13). Table 15 reveals the negative correlation between live births and age of marriage. It can be observed from fig 7.

Table 15 Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of Marriage Among Muria Women Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Age of Marriage	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
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16	07	40	5.71
17	24	81	3.38
18	30	109	3.63
19	12	42	3.50
20	10	21	2.10
21	09	20	3.33
22+	08	25	3.13
Total	100	348	3.48

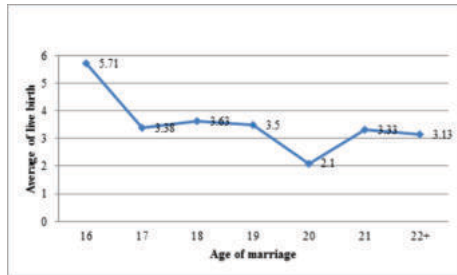


Fig7. Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of Marriage Among Muria Women.

Table 16 exhibits the distribution of live births according to age of first child birth among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon. Majority of women born their first child between 18 to 21 years of age (69.00%). However the average number of live births is observed among those Muria women born their first child at 17 years of age (5.00) and lowest among women born their first child at age of 26 years (1.40). It is evident from table that number of live births decreases with increases age of first child births among Muria women. On the basis of present study it can be concluded that live births associated negatively with age of first child birth. Distribution of live births in relation to age of first child birth is presented in Fig 8.

Table 16 Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of First Child Birth Among Muria Women Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Age of first child birth	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
17	02	10	5.00
18	14	56	4.00
19	13	46	3.54
20	23	94	4.08
21	19	67	3.53
22	07	22	3.14
23	08	27	3.37
24	04	10	2.5
25	02	03	1.5
26	05	07	1.40
28	03	06	2.00
Total	100	348	3.48

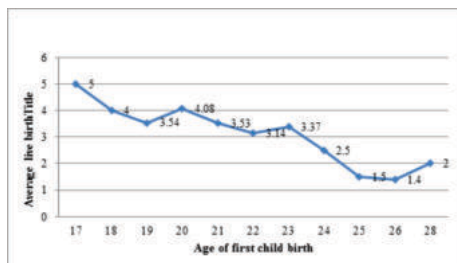


Fig 8. Distribution Of Live Births According To Age Of First Child Birth Among Muria Women.

Distribution of live births according number of abortion among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon District is presented in Table 17. Table reveals that only 18% women experienced from abortion during their reproductive life and no. of abortion vary from 0 to 3. The proportion of women experienced one abortion is 16.00%, however majority of Muria women never experienced abortion and indicate higher average number of live births (3.77) compare to those women who experienced abortion 0 to 3 (2.17). Table 18 reveals the distribution of live births according contraceptive uses among Muria

women. Majority of women never used any kind of contraceptives (84.00%). The Muria women used contraceptives indicate lower number of average live births (2.18) compared to those women never used contraceptives (3.73).

Table 19 exhibits the distribution of live births according to mate selection among Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon district. Majority of women have selected their mates from different village (79%) and indicate relatively higher number of live births (3.71) compared to those women selected their mates from own village (2.62). The result of this study shows that selection of mate by residence influence their live births.

Table 17 Distribution Of Live Births According To No. Of Abortion Among Muria Women Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

No. of Abortion	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
0	82	309	3.77
1	16	35	2.18
2	1	3	3.00
3	1	1	1.00
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 18 Distribution Of Live Births According To Use Of Contraceptive Among Muria Women Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Contraceptive use	No. of women	Total live births	Average live births
Yes	16	35	2.18
No	84	313	3.73
Total	100	348	3.48

Table 19 Distribution Of Live Births According To Mate Selection Among Muria Women Of Binjhe Village Of Kondagaon.

Selection of mates	No. of houses	Total live births	Average live births
From same village	21	55	2.62
From different village	79	293	3.71
Total	100	348	3.48

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The present study is under taken to examine the association between live births and bio-cultural characteristics of Muria women of Binjhe village of Kondagaon. On the basis of the results of the study it has been concluded that the majority of Muria women are illiterate, lives in joint families and used liquor and tobacco, which affects their reproductive life.

The analysis for the population under study reveals that the Muria women who are illiterate, house wife, live in joint families, Kachha houses and related to non consanguineous marriage have shown higher number of live births however in case, of menarcheal age, age of marriage, age of first child birth and number of abortion Muria women experienced 1st menstruation at 15 years, married at 16 years, born their first child at age of 17 years and experienced no abortion exhibits higher number of live births.

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