

CHAPTER-III

ATTITUDES AND VIEWS OF THE MANGS

In this section, I am going to present different univariable tables which indicate their attitudes towards various aspects like marriage, dowry, education, occupations, economic life of boys and girls.

Table-1 : Showing Respondents attitudes
Regarding age of marriage of
Boys and Girls

	Age Group			Total
	0 to 10 years	11 to 20 years	21 and above	
Boys	03%	-	97%	100%
Girls	08%	84%	08%	100%

Out of 100 respondents 97% said that the boys age of marriage should be '21 and above' while 3% said that it should be '0-10 years' (child marriage). As regards girls 'marriage age' 84% said it should be within 11-20 years while 8% said 0-10 years (child marriage). It is also noteworthy to note an urbanisation trend of attitude among the 8% respondents who gave the marriage age of girls as 21 and above.

**Table-2 : The Respondents Expectations
regarding Son-in-Laws**

Regarding Training	Educated Service Holders	Educated Agricul- turists	Educated Service Holder and Agricul- turst	Total
Number of percentage and Respon- dents	66%	16%	18%	100%

It is found that out of 100 respondents 66% expected that their son-in-law must be an 'Educated Service Holder' while 16% expected 'Educated Agriculturists' and 18% expected 'Educated Service Holder-cum-Agriculturist son-in-law's. This indicates once again the occupational changes, a sign of urbanisation and modernisation trends among the majority of Mangs.

**Table-3 : Classification of Respondents
according to weightages to be
given to different virtues of
Daughter-in-Law**

Virtues	House work and education	House work and charac- ter	Education and cha- racter	Dowry and educa- tion	Total
Number of Percentage and Respondents	20%	22%	52%	06%	100%

Table No. 3 shows important emphasis to be given to different kinds of requirements/virtues of the would-be Daughter-in-law. 52% emphasized education, 22% emphasized house work and character, 20% emphasised house work and education and 6% emphasized dowry and education. This again reveals the influence of education and minor trends of dowry among the Mangs too. A majority are, however, against dowry as indicated in the next table.

Table-4 : Showing the Respondents Attitudes
Towards Acceptance of Dowry

				(Rupees)
Amount of Dowry	Nil	0 to 200	201 to 500	Total
Number of Respondents	70%	18%	12%	100%

Table No. 4 shows that out of 100 respondents interviewed 70% were against dowry, 18% expected dowry to the extent of Rs. 200 and 12% between Rs. 201 and Rs. 500/-. This table confirms once again our observations given in the above Table No. 3.

**Table-5 : Classification of the Respondents
expectations regarding the ideal
number of children**

Type of family	2 Sons and 1 daughter	2 Dau- ghters and 1 Son	1 Son and 1 Daughter	Total
Number Percentage of Respon- dents	70%	18%	12%	100%

It is seen from Table No. 5 that 70% respondents expected the number of children to be 2 sons and 1 daughter, 80% wished 2 daughters and a son and 12% wished a son and a daughter. In their words, a majority of the Mang community people have been influenced by the Family Welfare Programmes and communication media and prefer to have a small family.

**Table-6 : Classification of Respondents
according to whom they consult
regarding female, marriage,
domestic matters, loans etc.**

Source	Wife, friend and son	Son, wife and leader of the village	Leader of caste, leader of village, relatives	Relatives, daughter, wife	Total
Number and percentage of respon- dents	62%	14%	16%	8%	100%

**Many Children who had just returned
from School : A Changing Attitude
towards Education.**



62% respondents or a majority consulted their wife, friend and son, 16% consulted caste and village leaders and leaders of the village. In other words wife, son, friend and caste and village leader are important and influential people in the village communication process.

**Table-7 : Classification of Respondents
Expectations regarding education
of children**

Education	Literacy stage	VIlth Std.	XIth Std.	Above gradua- tion	Total
Son	06%	08%	10%	76%	100%
Daughter	70%	24%	04%	02%	100%

76% respondents said that they wished their sons to be educated upto graduation while 70% respondents wanted their daughters only to become literate i.e. able to read and write. This shows that though a favourable attitude of education towards sons, the same is not true towards daughters.

Table-8 : Respondents conception of General Health

Criteria of Health	Height, weight and stamina	Stamina disease free and weighty	Stamina disease free	Total
Number and percentage of Respondents	10%	20%	70%	100%

When asked about their conception of 'good health' 70% respondents said 'Disease-Free and stamina are important factors of one's good health while 20% gave 'Weight, stamina and disease-free' as factors of good health. In their words, a majority think that a person free from all diseases can lead a good healthy life.

Table-9 : Respondents views about Health and Physique.

Health physique	Exercises and Balanced Food	Cleanliness and Balanced Food	Exercises Balanced Food and Cleanliness	Total
Number and percentage of Respondents	24%	14%	62%	100%

62% said that 'exercises', 'balanced food' and 'cleanliness' are important factors for maintaining good physique and good health.

**Table-10 : Classification of Respondents
view regarding Nourishing Food.**

Nourishing Food	Jowar, Pulses, Brinjals and Methi	Wheat, Meat, Grams, Chakwat	Meat, Pulses grains and Cabbage	Total
Number of Respondents	18%	66%	16%	100%

66% said nourishing food to be wheat, meat, grains and chakwat (leafy vegetable), while 18% consider jowar, pulses, brinjals and methi (leafy vegetable) as nourishing food and 16% considered meat, pulses, grain and cabbage as nourishing food.

Table-11 : Showing Respondents used.

Type of Bedding	Ghongdi and Vahai	Ghongdi and Chadar	Shawl and Rags	Total
Number and percentage of Respondents	79%	13%	08%	100%

Table No. 11 shows the type of bedding being used by 100 respondents interviewed. 79% used 'Chongdi' prepared out of rough wool and Vakal (a rug prepared out of pieces of old clothes), 13% used 'Godhadi and Chadar' and 8% used 'Shawl and Rugs etc. We note that a majority of them use local bedding and many a times prepared at home by women.

**Table-12 : Classification of Respondents
Land Holdings.**

Total Land	0 to 5 Gunthas	6 to 10 Gunthas	11 to 15 Gunthas	Total
Number and Percentage of Respon- dents	84%	13%	03%	100%

Table No. 12 shows the land holdings of the 100 respondents. 84% owned 0 to 5 gunthas of land, 13% owned 6 to 10 gunthas, while only 3% had 11 to 15 gunthas of land holdings. It means that only for name sake they have a small piece of land which cannot provide for their subsistence requirements even for 2 months.

Table-13 : Improvement done in the family life of the Respondents Generation

Improvements	Nil	House	Education	Total
Number and Percentage of Respondents	57%	26%	17%	100%

Improvements done in the family life is shown in Table No. 13, among 57% families there was no improvement at all, 26% constructed their own houses, 17% had good education, during the present generation. However, there was no improvement in electricity and water supply in case of all the 100 interviewed.

Table-14 : Showing the Classification of advantages received from the Cooperative Societies.

Advantages	Loans	Fertilisers and Seeds	No. advantages	Total
Number and Percentage of Respondents	-	07%	93%	100%

Table No. 14 shows that 93% benefits and advantages taken by the respondents from the Cooperative Societies. No one out of 100 respondents received any loans from the Co-operative, 07% of respondents took advantage of 'Fertilizers and Seeds' and 93% had not taken and advantages at all. This indicates that the role of Co-operative for the Mangs and other depressed classes has been negligible.

**Table-15 : Classification of Sources
who helped Develop the
Agriculture of the Respondents.**

Sources of help	No. help having small	Neighbours	Total
Number and Percentage of Respon- dents	83%	17%	100%

Table No. 15 shows the sources from whom help was derived to develop the agriculture. It is found that out of 83% took no help because of their small holdings, 17% took help from their neighbourers.

I will now present a few case studies in order to have a qualitative understanding of their life.

CASE STUDIES

Apart from the 100 interviewees of Mang families in Sarud, Kapashi and Donoli villages I have also undertaken to pin point the real state of affairs in the community at large and of the few who happen to come in direct contact with. I met them and discussed social, economic, religious, educational and other problems of the community. Their problems are wide ranging. But to sweep through the whole gamut of their conditions would have made the study very wide. Undidely I, therefore, confined my interest to selected few questions so as to be able to give an exact picture. Though all of them stick to the traditional professions, their income ranges from Rs. 800 to Rs. 900/- only for the whole family.

Case Study No. 1 : Ganapati Krishna Kamble is 55 years old and of Kapashi village. When I personally met him I could discuss about various aspects.

Ganapati is a father of four children out of them three are daughters and out of which one is married. Shri Ganapati's wife has undergone family planning operation willingly. Ganapati took a lead in approaching the medical authorities for the said operation. There is a growing sense

A woman and her daughter helping
her husband, in rope-making, their
traditional occupation



of property in the family. Owns a house and is eager to buy household things out of his limited income. He is not prepared to borrow from bank or any other institution to improve his economic conditions. He complains of the circumstances that he has been placed. Recently he has been persuaded by the Bank of India (Sarud) to accept a loan of Rs. 500/- to meet his business requirements. From time to time he takes help from the Bank to meet his professional needs.

Maize bread, and green vegetables and pulses are the common items in his meals. Rice is a rare item in the family's meal. He has a habit of chewing pan and tobacco and tea. Ganapati does not try to develop personal contacts with people of other communities. He and his family almost remain secluded. Ganapati follows the moral codes framed by his caste people at large.

Case Study No. 2 : Tukaram Ranchandra Kamble of Donoli belongs to Mang community and is fortunate enough to be educated upto VIIth standard. He happens to be married at an early age of 16 years. He has two daughters and a son. All his children in the age group 16-20 years are literate and help parents in earning their livelihood. His wife underwent an operation because of poor conditions. Economically, Tukaram is not so sound but he manages his expenses. On insistence

from the authorities of the Bank of India, he has taken a loan of Rs. 500/- to meet expenses for raw material and he is paying back to the bank regularly. He is devoted to his traditional occupation of making of rope, brooms and other traditional items. In this all family members that are his unmarried daughter and son help him.

So far property is concern he has a hutment of his own. But has no agricultural land. He meets his provisional requirements by buying foodgrains at the week end market. Tukaram follows the same food habit of his community. His educatedness has made him moderate in his tobacco and betel chewing and he is more or less free from other habits. Tea taking is uncommon in his family. Occasionally when friends and family sit together black tea is generally served as a social custom.

Tukaram got his eldest daughter married in the neighbouring village. The whole marriage ceremony pass through peacefully which is not so in the case of most Mang marriages.

Tukaram Kamble's family is an ideal to be followed by the less progressive Mangs in Kapeshi, Sarul and Donoli. Unfortunately he could not get his son educated to achieve

further prosperity. Still his family may be considered as a yardstick to understand others.

Case Study No. 3 : Dhondl Krishna Mang Naik is an aged person of 70 years. He is a father of four children. He belongs to old generation and remains without the advantage of basic education. Similarly his better half is equally illiterate.

His only daughter is married to his sister's son and even gave a dowry of Rs. 100/-. His eldest son is married and has separated.

Dhondiba's age being 70 he follows rituals very carefully. After marriage ceremony he has visited alongwith a family the family Dety Dhondiba twice. Every year Dhondiba leads its family for worshipping the family God. To please Dhondiba, offering of coconut and other things is made. Further sleepless night (Jagaran) are spent to profitiate the God by all the members of the family. As a part of a ritual an iron chain breaking ceremony (Nangar) is also done after the Puja is performed in his house. It is a part of devotion to the family dety. The visit to the God Dhondiba of Peth Naka village is common to all the families of the Mangs.

Case Study No. 4 : Laxmi Krishna Mang Naik of Sarud is of 55 years old. He is a well built person and does not carry on traditional occupation. Perhaps he finds daily wages more lucrative than making of ropes or brooms. Every day he and his wife and two grown-up children work in a road construction project started by the Zilla Parishad. The total earning per day ranges between 30 rupees but absence on any day causes hardship. The meals are prepared in a small quantity because of limited income and more number of family members.

Laxman and his son are Masons in their own right. Yet they cannot be classified as skilled workers. Therefore, their income is limited. Laxman's family makes use of his he-buffalo for working as daily labourer in the Zilla Parishad work for poor project. Laxman's family is free from debts except that some 500 rupees are taken for meeting emergency expenses.

Laxman's family fully follows the moral code laid down by the community. Laxman has strictly followed tradition and customs of the community in case of his daughter's and son's marriage.

In the above pages I have presented various tables and case studies. In the next chapter we will present important observations and conclusions.