

CHAPTER TWO

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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SELECTION OF PROBLEM :

The chief concern of the study is to understand Gavalis traditional economy and changes due to dissemination of external / developmental ideas in agriculture and education and so on. Thus, it is not only a community study but study of a people and their adaptation with their environment as well as the new culture of neighbouring groups.

This Gavali community has migrated from Maharashtra, Goa where they are known as Dange Dhanagars and from some parts of Karnataka. They are found especially in the Western Ghat regions of Maharashtra i.e. Sindhudurg, Pune, Satara, Bombay and some part of Kolhapur district, as well as in Karnataka : Belgaum, Uttara Kannada and Shimoga.

The researcher comes from Hubli, district Dharwad in Karnataka. The field is 57 Kms. away from his native place i.e. Uttara Kaannada district. In this district there are many tribes and communities such as Lamani, Sidhis, Kurubas and Gavalis. Hence, the researcher thought that he should conduct a community study of Gavalis especially emphasizing their economy and environment.

After presenting a synopsis on the topic in the Departmental seminar and with further discussions with my guide who is keenly interested in such empirical studies. I finally finalised the topic “Economy and Development Communication Among the Gavalis of Uttar Kannada district in Karnataka”.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES :

- 1) To out line the socio-economic characteristics : migration, education, land holding of Gavalis.
- 2) To understand Gavalis present agricultural and “pastoral economic structure”, ‘mode of production’ and ‘production relations’.
- 3) To examine the role of NGO’s like BYM, World Vision and their programmes on the Gavali community.

UNIVERSE OF STUDY :

Mundgod taluka of Uttara Kannada district in Karnataka is the universe of study which has given shelter to Gavali migrants from Maharashtra.

UNITS OF STUDY :

Two settlements Jogiswarala households and Kandranakoppa which are 3 Kms. and 40 Km. from Mundgod town have been selected purposively. This is because a Christian priest father Christmas David and a practicing doctor who is my friend has close contact with the people of these settlements.

It was decided to take all the (20) families as respondents from these two settlements. Though these two settlements together consist of only 20 households yet it provides a total view of the community economy and way of life. Besides, observation and secondary data also provided insights into their life patterns.

TECHNIQUES OF DATA COLLECTION :

Interview Schedule :

After going through some of the community and tribal studies the researcher prepared an interview schedule with questions dealing with family type, occupation, economy and exposure to modern communication media as well as opinions and attitude evaluation. In all there were 70 questions majority of which were close ended question (see appendix). The English schedule was used for data collection. The researcher required nearly forty five minutes to complete an interview schedule of one Gavali family.

Records And Documents :

M. Phil and Ph.D. dissertation and thesis on the relevant subject, Gazetteer of India. Gazetteer of Uttara Kannada district. Records from Haliyal Municipal Corporation. Statistical office. Tahasildar office and Mundgod Dhangar Gavalis Multipurpose Co-operative Ltd.. (Mundgod), were the sources

of secondary data. Information was also collected from Joint secretary B. M. Hegde, Asst. Tahasildar Mr. Koparde (Haliyal), Mr. V. S. Naik statistical officer and social workers of BYM and World Vision of India.

Establishing Rapport :

Initially the Gavalis were hesitant to give information but when researcher approached them with the help of some Christian Missionaries working among them since 7 to 8 years they changed their attitude. Social workers are working in an NGO called Blessing Youth Mission. This organisation has started "Balavadi" (Nursery) school for children in Kandrankoppa and therefore they have good contacts with the villagers. Especially I must mention here Father Christmas David who directly put me in touch with the Gavalis and their settlement living amidst thick forest .

The researcher travelled to the village by bus. I met these two settlement people and explained to them about the purpose of my study. I wanted to have an insight into the nature of customs, beliefs, practices day-to-day activities and their social values. Visits were paid from time to time to Jogiswarala and Kandrankoppa and to various settlements and localities where Gavalis resided. I observed their agricultural work, leisure activities, pastoral activities, personality type, house type, cattle and buffaloes, milk selling system, education, dress pattern, cow shed and fields.

DURATION OF THE EMPIRICAL STUDY :

The present study is based on the data collected during the month of October and December 2000 and March to June 2001. In all around 30 days of field work was done for the present study. My supervisor or guide also visited the field and directed the line and areas of observation and investigation.

CLASSIFICATION, ANALYSIS AND REPORT WRITING :

A code book was prepared and the Interview Schedule data was coded. Relevant statistical tables were prepared and interpreted. The dissertation has been divided into the following Chapters Scheme :

- CHAPTER ONE** : INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE.
- CHAPTER TWO** : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.
- CHAPTER THREE** : SETTING OF THE STUDY.
- CHAPTER FOUR** : SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF GAVALIS.
- CHAPTER FIVE** : GAVALI ECONOMY.
- CHAPTER SIX** : GAVALIS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION
- CHAPTER SEVEN** : SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.