



**Article : A STUDY OF PAWRA TRIBE IN NANDURBAR DISTRICT,  
MAHARASHTRA**

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**Abstract :-**

In Human Geography some Nomadic and primitive tribes viz Eskimo, kriqiz, Pigmy, bushman etc. are stuchied. Here an attempt is made to study the pawra Tribe in Nandurbar district.

Firstly the pawra tribe is mostly in habited in the ranges of satpura in Dhadgaon, Shahada, Taloda, Akkalkuwa Tahasils of Nandurbar district.

Secondly Their language social structure, customs are different from the other tribes. Their social administration is controlled by the head of the society of the village.

Thirdly their economic activities are entirely depends up on the satpura mountain.

**Key words :-**

Tribe, cultural Aspect, social Aspect, occupation, foodhabits .

**.. Introduction :-**

To begin with most of the tribal people of India are traditionally populated in the hills, ravines and forest areas right

from the ancient times Even after independence their primitive identity is partially changed. The tribal living in forest areas are dependent upon the forests in several ways. The tribe continue to receive scant attention from their social as well as population geography. The hills, ravines, forest, rains all contribute to preservation of their culture. These aspects are found among the tribes of Gond, Bhil, Pawra Living in specific areas Pawra tribe have their own identity and their own life style.

They are habitats in Nandurbar district General Background. The pawra tribe is mostly inhabited in the ranges of satpura mountain In Nandurbar district pawra tribes majorly in Dhadgaon Tahasil in Nandurbar district. The entire Dhadgaon tahsil is situated in the satpura ranges. Secondly in this tahasil 94.95 population is tribal populations thirdly the pawras primitive identity is still found there. Even though in this area most of the pawras are unknown with other languages of their neighbouring people except educated pawaras.

Dr. Chandhari proved in his research study that the pawra tribe is an independent tribe. In this research paper we focused on the study of pawra tribe in Nandurbar district.

#### .. **Study area :-**

Nandurbar district extends between  $21^{\circ}0'$  to  $22^{\circ}03'$  north latitude and  $73^{\circ}47'$  to  $74^{\circ}47'$  east longitude Nandurbar district lies in the north western part of maharashtra Nandurbar district was created with bifurcation of Dhule district on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1998, The region is bounded by Dhule district on east and south while on the west by surat district of Gujarat state and on the north by Badwani and Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh state.

Nandurbar district with a Geographical area of 5034.23 sq. km. According to 2001 census Nandurbar district accommodates 13 11709 people with 65.5 percent of scheduled tribe population which rank first in the state Dhadgaon Tahsil ranks first with 94.95 percent tribal population then Navapur, Akkalkuwa, Taloda, Shahada and Nandurbar. The Density of the district comes to 260 persons per sq km. (census 2001) Dhadgaon Tahasil density of population is 177 person per sq km. There are majorly pawra tribes sex ratio in the district is 977 females per thousand males. The literacy rate in the district is 55.8 percent according to census 2001.

A number of tribal groups being accommodated in various tahsils in the district but we attempt only study of pawra tribes.

.. **Objectives :-**

- 1) To study the pawra tribes social and cultural background.
- 2) To study pawra tribes traditional and present occupation.
- 3) To study the Geographical impact an pawras socio-economic structure.

.. **Data base and methodology :-**

The present study is based on primary as well as secondary data. The main source of primary data is a field survey which completed authors. We assume the main centre of Dhadgaon Tahsil of pawra tribe in the district selected 60 families with the help of random sampling method. 60 families and their villages are entirely pawra tribes. Keenly surveyed by interview with the head of the family member or available family member secondary data source is earn form forest department, district head quarter, Tahasil place of Dhadgaon. etc with the help of Data and suitable information studied keenly their social structure cultural and economic activities, their life style, percapita income, food habits, attitudes and dietetics are examined.

.. **Cultural and social Aspect :-**

Culturally tribals differ from non tribal people of India mainly because of their isolation in the forests of hills and away from the plains. The pawra tribe living in the satpura ranges. Their deities concern with hills, forest, animals and forest materials. They are worshippers of Bapdev (God Tiger), Indal (God-Indra), Surya (Sun), Chandra (Moon), Peaks big trees, clouds, cow, bullocks etc. Their main festivals are the Holly, Indal etc. Nilipi (worship of village boundary) Mukay (worship of agricultural food grain) ola pujatala (worshipped to agricultural instruments). These festivals and ceremonies are quiets different than their neighbouring tribes. Their language is known as pawri. Socially and religiriously some guides and protectors of the pawra society. The influence of leaders under different situations also obsereved among the tribes. The head of the pawra tribe in the village is known as patil who conducted village administration by all respects.

.. **Food habits :-**

Jawar, maize, rice, mugh, udid, Turala are common in their meal. They also used flesh of goats and poultry. As the aspect of their features they are generally thin – big – bodies.

.. **The disease :-**

Disease are found generally scabizs, diaria is sured commonly in the rainy season malnutrision is observed in the children and women.

.. **Size of Family :-**

Special characteristics is founal most of the joint families in the study region regarding the size of family of medium size of families are found commonly every where.

.. **Cloths :-**

The dress of the people is generally found of cotton cloth. Older people used pheta on head. Dhoti used around waist and shawll is worn on the body. Dress of the women mainly consist of choli and sari. Their clothes are generally cotton. New generation useal fabric cloths, trousers, shirts, manila are common among them.

.. **Occupation :-**

Economic opportunities have brought some changed in position of tribals. Most continue to remain below the powerty line their historical isolation has not as yel been fully broken. The tribal pawras are traditionally subsistence farmers and gatherer of forest materials. As long as lived in their ancestral habitats protected by hills and forest. They gained food grains by subsistence agriculture and collected fruits as free crops from mahuwa, charoli, mangow. During the field work (survey period) above trees are found luxuriantly observed every where as in the fields on their farm boundries and near the sides of huts also. They have also a lot of live stick. Above all these sources they fulfil their own consumption on the primary level. Their economic condition and life style is totally dependent on the environment of satpura mountain. This impact is observed in the survey. Most of the families are engaged in the primary occupations which consists subsistance agriculture agro-forestry, rearing animals like cows, Bullucks, Buffelows, Goat and Poutry. They produce food grains like

Jawar, maize, Rice, Udid, Mugh, Tur etc. Some persons of the some family are engaged in the government services.

.. **Conclusion :-**

- 1) The pawra tribe is mostly concentrated in Dhadgaon, Akkalkuwa, and Shahada Tahsils of Nandurbar district. Their tribal culture is preserved by the environment of the satpura.
- 2) Their language, social structure, customs are different from the other tribes.
- 3) Their size of family is bigger than the common family wise of non tribal people.
- 4) Their social administration is controlled by the head of the society of the village.
- 5) Their economic activities are entirely depends up on the satpura mountain.
- 6) The vicinity of Dhadgaon is influenced upon their education, life style and living of standard.

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