



Correlation between Female literacy and Child Sex Ratio In Kolhapur District: A Geographical Analysis

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Introduction

Female literacy and child sex ratio are two important demographic characteristics of population. Female literacy plays a very important role in upliftment of the sex ratio. (Keshwa, 2013). Literacy is considered as one of the most important social aspects of any society's development, especially of rural areas and it denotes essential criterion of human development. It indicates the socio-cultural states of any society, in any geographical unit and the change in literacy reflects the socio-cultural and economic transformation of the society. Literacy is a essential for eradicating poverty and mental isolation for cultivating peaceful and friendly international relations and for permitting the play of demographic process (Chandna, 1980 & Krishan, 1978). In census 1991 and 2001, a person, and aged 7 and above was considered as literate who can both read and write with the understanding of any language (PCA of Census, 1981 and 2001)

The gap between male and female literacy is a sensitive indicator of social discrimination. The gender gap in education occurs when there are systematic differences in schooling levels between men and women. It is a useful measure for providing evidence of the inequalities that exist between the sexes in terms of access to school. The construction of gender roles in any society is influenced by several factors, most of which are largely independent of the sources of poverty or growth. Indicators frequently used to measure gender equality include life expectancy, education, and earnings. India, like other developing contraries, has always been characterized by its sharps inequalities, rooted in centuries by its evolution, of cast, gender and residence. The inequalities in literacy existing among male-female are most drastic in nature. The inequalities in literacy among male-female are result of our countries old discriminatory social order and there natural adaptation (M.B.Singh, 2011). According to the census 2011, in Kolhapur the literacy rate has increased 67.91% (2011) to 76.64% although there is significant improvement in Child Sex Ratio is important indicator of development. It also describes the present situation with respect to status of girl child, gender discrimination, infanticides and feticides. Present sex composition of child population determines the future vital events such as marriage rate, labour force, age structure, birth and death, migration, etc.

OBJECTIVES:

The present paper has following objectives:

1. To trace the spatial pattern of female literacy rate in Kolhapur district
2. To examine the spatial pattern of child sex ratio in Kolhapur district
3. To analyze the correlation between spatial pattern of female literacy and child sex ratio of study region.

DATABASE AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Present paper is based on Primary as well as secondary data. Primary data is obtained by interview and secondary data is obtained by census of India 2011. The spatial pattern of sex ratio and literacy in Kolhapur is shown by different graphs and maps. Literacy rate been computed for the population above 6 year. For analyses of the correlation of female literacy & child ratio the Karl Pearson's correlation method is used.

STUDY AREA:

The study area of this paper is a small representative part of Maharashtra. The region under study extends from 15017' North to 17017' north latitudes and 73040' East to 74042' East longitudes

and comprising 12 tahsils. Kolhapur district is enclosed by Sangli district in the north, in the south of Karnataka state in Belgaum district and in the west it is bounded by Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts. The district sharing 2.62 % area of the Maharashtra state.

According to 2011 census the total population of the district is 3874015 with literacy 82.90 %. Physical factors as well as education units affects on literacy rate. Karveertahsil has highest literacy(88.20%) followed by Hatkanangletahsil(85.99%) because of accessibility as well as number of educational units in this tehsils.

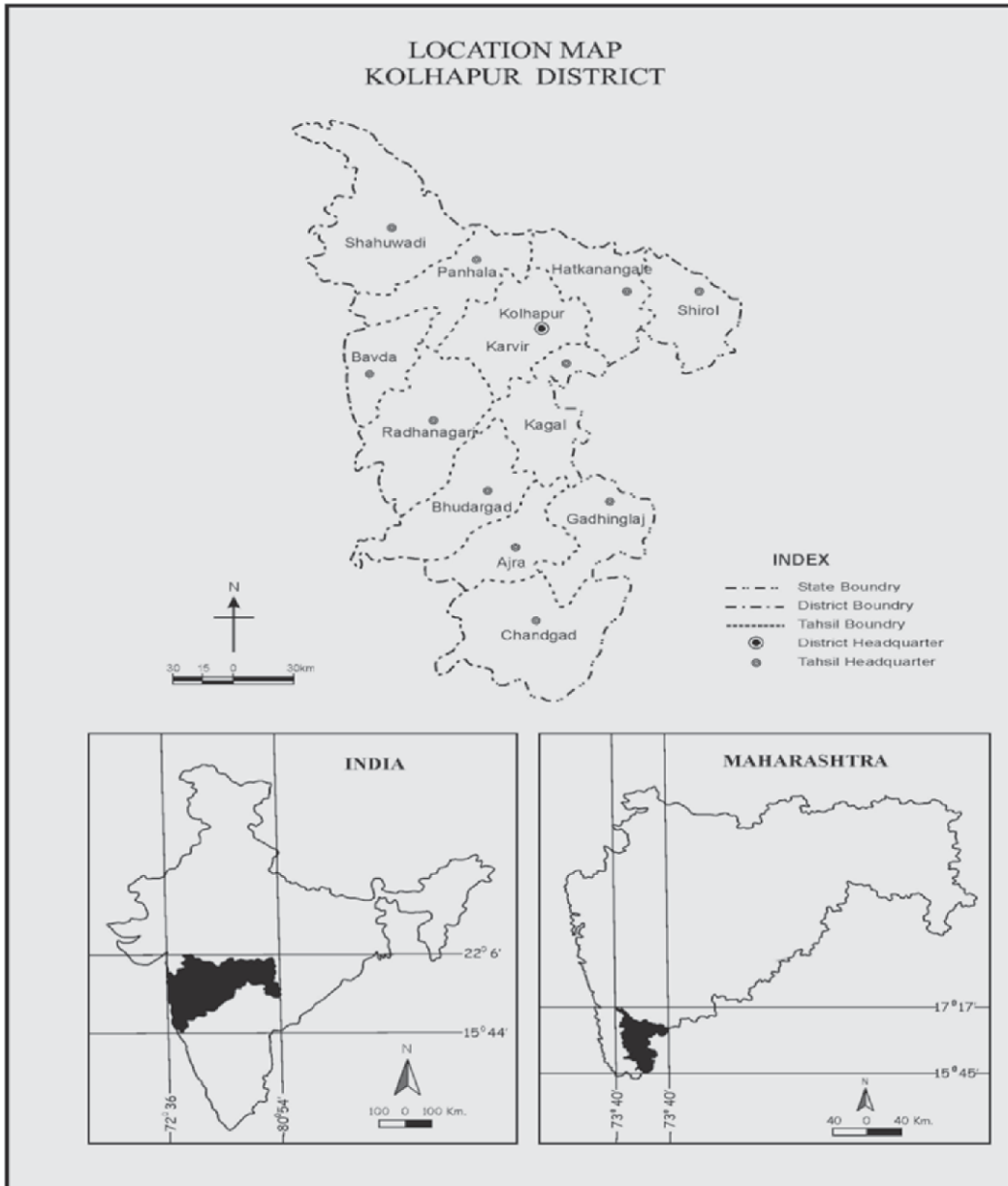


Fig. 1

Limitation of Research :

Present research is limited to Kolhapur district's child sex ratio and female literacy in 2011.

Spatial Pattern of Child Sex Ratio:

Table No.1

Sr.No.	Tehsil	Child Sex ratio (0-6)
1	Shahuwadi	924
2	Panhala	843
3	Hatkanangale	875
4	Shirol	868
5	Karveer	832
6	Gaganbawada	912
7	Radhanagari	832
8	Kagal	832
9	Bhudargad	839
10	Ajara	1095
11	Gadhinglaj	894
12	Chandgad	947

Source : Census 2011

Table.1 presents an overall picture of child sex ratio (2011) of Kolhapur District. In 2011 census, Kolhapur District has been recorded improvement in child sex of 24 points from 839(2001) to 863(2011). Sex ratio also reveals a wide disparity across districts. The lowest sex ratio is found in KarveerKagal&Radhnagari tehsil where there were only 832 girls for every 1000 boys in the age group 0-6years. while highest child sex ratio is reported in Ajara Tehsil (1095) girls per 1000 boys. Map no. 1 gives a visual impression of inter tehsils variations in sex ratio in the district. The range of child sex ratio divided into three categories, that is, (i) high, (ii) moderate, (iii) low.

High Child Sex Ratio:

Out of 12 tehsils, only one tehsil have high child sex ratio. The highest child sex ratio that is 1095 found in AjaraTehsil. Due to discrimination against girl child is not strong in these districts, lesser accessibility , less availability of medical facilities and awareness about scanning centers may be the main reasons, which are responsible of high child sex ratio in these tehsils.

Moderate Child Sex Ratio:

Moderate sex ratio has recorded in the tehsil of Chandgad947 Shahuwadi(924) and Gaganbawda (912) .It is because of shortage of clinic, low literacy rate and not well transport system are main reasons, which are responsible for moderate child sex ratio in these Tehsils.

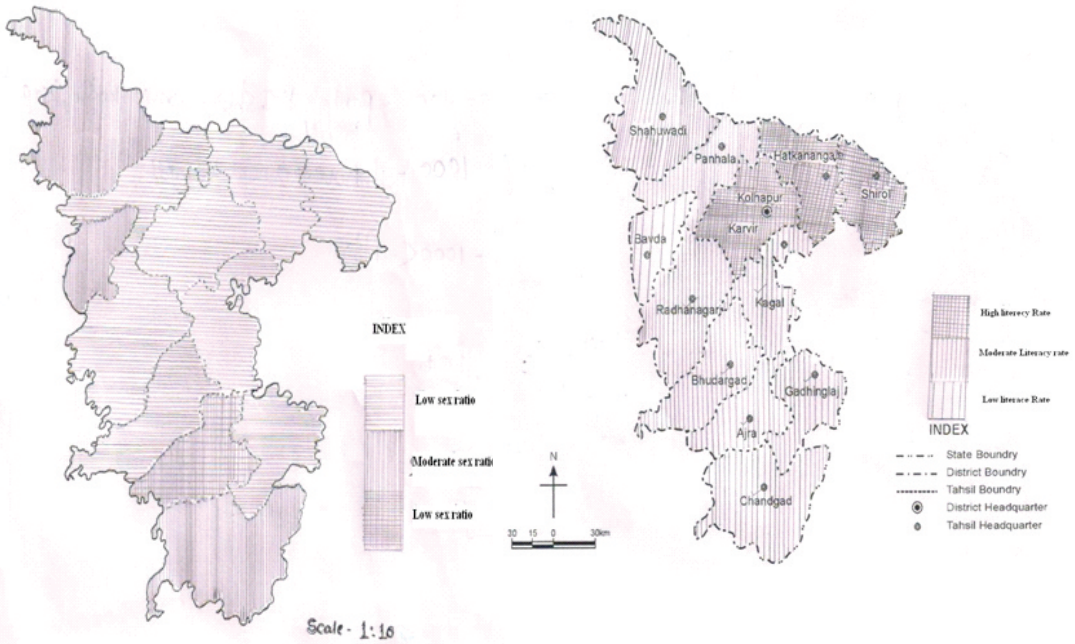
Low Child Sex Ratio:

Low child sex ratio is found a contiguous zone consisting of Panhala(843)Hatkanangale (875)Shirol(868) Karvir (832) Radhanagari (832) Kagal(832) Bhudargad(839) and Gadhinglaj (894) in northern part part of Kolhapur district. Due to the patriarchal system is very strong and the rapid growth of pre-natal diagnostic test center has added to decline of female child.

KOLHAPUR DISTRICT

Child sex ratio

Female literacy



Compiled by researcher
Spatial Pattern of Female Literacy Rate:

Fig.No.2

Table No.2

Tehsil	Female literacy in %
Shahuwadi	62.19
Panhala	70.54
Hatkanangale	78.88
Shirol	77.07
Karveer	81.83
Gaganbawada	58.06
Radhanagari	65.91
Kagal	69.64
Bhudargad	68.28
Ajara	64.47
Gadhinglaj	67.97
Chandgad	62.5

Source : Census 2011

Table.2 shows pattern of female literacy rate (2011) in the District . In 2011 census,Kolhapur district has recorded 74.22 per cent female literacy rate, which is increase by 7.8% from 2001.In district highest literacy rate is in Karveer (81.83%) and lowest in Gaganbavada (58.06%). Fig no.2. gives a visual impression of inter-tehsil disparity in literacy rate in the district. The range of literacy divided into three categories, that is, (i) high, (ii) moderate, (iii) low

High literacy rate

Karveer tehsil has highest female literacy rate of(81.83%) followed by Hatkanangale (78.88), Shirol (77.07). It is because of development in agriculture ,high economic condition ,better educational facilities and awareness of peoples towards education.

Medium Literacy rate

Moderate literacy has recorded in the tehsil of Shahuwadi (62.19%),Radhanagari (65.91%) ,Kagal (69.64%),Bhdargad (68.28%) Ajara(64.47%),, Gadhinglaj(67.97%),, Chandgad(62.50%), In these tehsils have well agricultural developed, high urbanization and availability of educational institutes and high degree of development.

Low Literacy rate

Low literacy is found in one tehsil .The lowest literacy rate i.e(58.06) is found in Gaganbawada. Due to uneven land, less accessibility ,less education facility pre-dominance of backward population in these tehsils which give less attention towards education

CORRELATION BETWEEN FEMALE LITERACY RATE AND CHILD SEX RATIO

Correlation between Female Literacy Rate and Child Sex Ratio in Kolhapur district.Spearman's rank correlation is measure of relationship between two variables using the ranking data ranking data. The rank correlation between child sex ratio and female literacy is -0.45. It is a moderate negative correlation. The child sex ratio and female literacy have moved opposite direction in Kolhapur district. The sex ratio has been found to be highest in districts, which have low female literacy. Mew at most back word region of the district, Ajaratehsil has registered female literacy of (64.47%). but it has the highest child sex ratio of 1095, only district above the 1000 mark. While in Karvir , literacy rate among women has gone from 81.83 percent and the child sex ratio comes down 832 .

CONCLUSION:

Present study found that there are regional disparities in distribution of the child sex ratio and female literacy Karveer tehsil has highest female literacy rate of (81.83%) followed by Hatkanangale (78.88%), Shirol (77.07%). Due to people are highly matured and discrimination against girl child is not strong in these tehsil. It is clear from the pattern of literacy that tehsil adjoining to district place have recorded high literacy rate. It is because of better educational facilities and awareness of peoples towards education. The study reveals that correlation between child sex ratio and female literacy is -0.46. It is a moderate negative correlation. The child sex ratio and female literacy have moved opposite direction in Kolhapur district. In 2011 census data shows correlation between child sex ratio and female literacy in tehsil, The sex ratio has been found to be highest in tehsils, which have low female literacy. Most back word region of the district, Ajara tehsil, has registered female literacy of (64.47%). but it has the highest child sex ratio of 1095, only tehsil above the 1000 mark. While in Karvir, literacy rate among women has gone from 81.83 % and the child sex ratio comes down 832 . It suggests that decline in child sex ratios are contributed more by female literacy and economically better of segment of population. It requires stringent action from the state authorities and mass movement to change the mindset and equal order of the patriarchal society.

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