



## Housing Condition of Tribal Handicraft Artisans in Nandurbar District: A Geographical Analysis

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### *Abstract*

*As like the water, and food, housing is also one of the basic needs of every individual, the family and community in general. It exhibits the cultural, social and economic value of a society, as it is the best physical and historical evidence of civilization in a country. The house is an individual's reflection of social prestige and status. Appropriate house is one of those basic needs of human life without which one cannot perceive of a life worth living. Prior to independence or even up to two decades later, the houses of the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes were in bad shape, and size. They were made of mud walls and thatched roof which they could not renovate annually due to pathetic economic condition. They used to keep their cow, bullock, goats and other animals, in the corners of the same house. But now a day as the process of development has brought economic prosperity, tribal handicraft artisans have also started investing a lot of money in improving their housing size and condition. This study attempts to examine the relationship between housing conditions and the quality of life of Tribal Handicraft Artisan in Nandurbar District.*

**Keywords:** Tribal area, Housing condition, House Types, Residential Houses, building material.

### **Introduction:**

Tribe in Dictionary of Anthropology is defining as 'a social group, usually with a definite area, dialect, cultural homogeneity, and unifying social organization'. There is yet another approach to the definition of tribe. Such a approach could be termed anthropological and sociological. The Anthropologists in the part considered tribe as synonymous with the term race, which has altogether a different meaning. The traditional attributes of a tribal group symbolize the hill and forest living of people. That is way; they are called 'Vanvasi', 'Girijan' or 'Vanaputra'. They are also the oldest inhabitants of the land and are known as 'Adivasi'. Tribal people in the study region are the early settlers. In Marathi dialect Adi means earlier and Vasi means habitants. Some of the sociologist denoted that they are the primitives. It is argued that in all probability where pre-Aryan and non-Dravidian settlers of the land. There has been a long debate among the social scientists regarding definition of tribe.

Handicraft is an important traditional occupation of India. As well as a region the handicraft industry in India has a history of several centuries. It thrived well till the arrival of British people in India. The establishment of alien rule, the consequent abortion of feudal lords from who bulk of the demand for handicraft came, resulted in the decline of this craft. The policy of the British Government encouraging production of utility articles in place of handicrafts caused further damage to this traditional occupation. The tribal handicrafts are specialized skill which is passed from one generation to another and these handicraft are means of livelihood of the artisans. Tribal groups are at different stages of social economic and educational development. Making handicrafts is one of the important occupation of the tribal communities. Traditionally it is related with nature and environment. This art is a gift for tribal society given by nature.

Housing conditions includes the physical conditions of dwellings, type of dwellings, house tenure, surrounding environment and availability of amenities. Quality of life is measured by 50 items on self-reported health, safety, and social support. It affects ones physical health and mental efficiency, therefore, future skill and productivity which ultimately determines individuals socio-economic status.

Housing is defined as “the process of providing a large number of residential buildings on a permanent basis with adequate physical infrastructure and social services in planned, decent, safe, and sanitary neighbourhoods to meet the basic and special needs of the population” (Kuroshi and Bala, 2005).

**Census house:-** is a building or part of a building used or recognized as a separate unit because of having a separate main entrance from the road or common courtyard or staircase etc. It may be occupied or vacant. It may be used for a residential or nonresidential purpose or both. If a building has a number of Flats or Blocks/Wings, which are independent of one another having separate entrances of their own from the road or a common staircase or a common courtyard leading to a main gate, these will be considered as separate Census houses.

**Habitat** -is a place or environment that is conducive to growth and provides controlled comfortable physical environment for the inhabitant.

**Household-** is usually a group of persons who normally live together and take their meals from a common kitchen. The persons in a household may be related or unrelated or a mix of both. However, if a group of unrelated persons live in a Census house but do not take their meals from the common kitchen, then they will not collectively constitute a household. Each such person should be treated as a separate household. There may be one member households, two member households or multi-member households. There are three types of households namely: Normal household is usually a group of persons who normally live together and take their meals from a common kitchen

**Housing need-** is an indicator of existing deficit. The numbers of households that do not have access to accommodation and are currently in homeless conditions, without a shelter /house are households that account for housing need.

Human beings entail houses as the fundamental need. Houses provide shelter and protection from intense of climate. Houses are the universal elements of the cultural landscape. The agglomeration of houses is responsible for cause of human settlements. Their character is related to the natural and cultural environment and to the cultural heritage of the people.

#### **Objectives-**

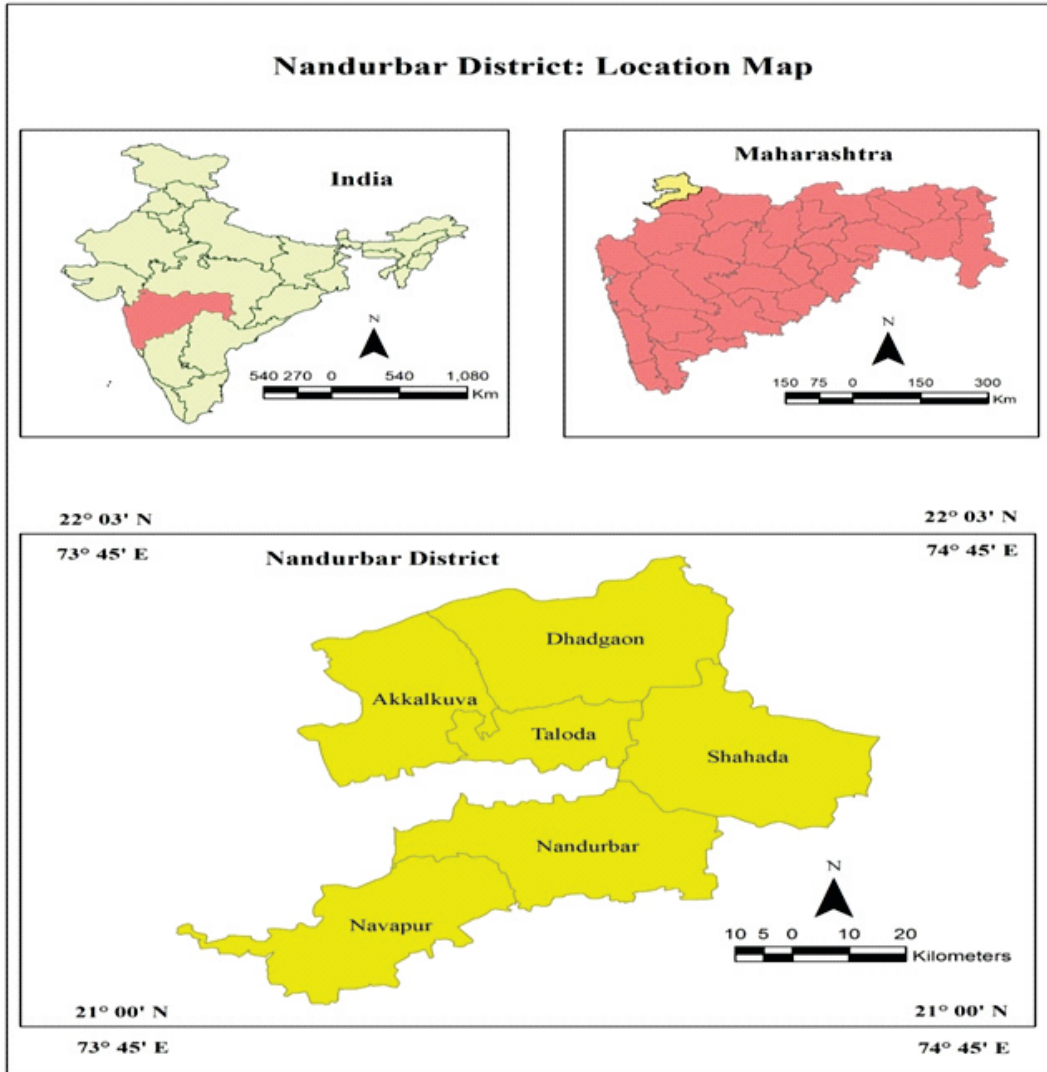
- To analyze the composition Tribal handicraft artisan's housing condition.
- To study material used for construction.
- To find out spatial distribution of Tribal handicraft artisan's housing condition.
- To identify factors affecting on housing condition.

#### **Study Region:-**

The area is inhabited by tribals. Nandurbar district is located in north western part of Maharashtra state. Nandurbar district is bounded to the south and south east side by Dhule district to the north Jhabhua district of Madhya Pradesh , to the west lies Surat district of Gujarat state Satpura mountain and piedmont plain stretches from east west , north part of the study area is occupied by Satpura mountain ranges and piedmont plain. The southern part is characterized by of sheets of Sahyadri hills the Narmada forms the boundary about 70 k.ms of the northern border of the district. A large part of the district falls in the Tapi river basin. The Narmada River flows in the westerly direction, marking border of the district and of the state for a stretch of 54 k.ms. The study region lies between 20° 00' north and 22° 03' north latitudes and 73° 45' east to 74° 45' east longitudes. The total area of study region is 5035 sq.k.ms. The distribution of population is a geographical phenomenon. It is related to location and space. According to 2011 total population was 1648295 and the total rural population was 1372821 which were more than 83.29 percent of the total population.

The density of population in Nandurbar district is 276 per sq. km. and 63.04 percent literacy. Distribution of population is uneven in the district, due to the Satpura mountain in the northern part of the district population is very sparsely. In the central part of the study area is the plain fertile region

found higher concentration of population. About 84.00 percent population is settled in rural areas and 67.00 percent population belongs from tribal communities. According to 2011 census Nandurbar district is a dominant tribal district and rank first in Maharashtra state. 39 tribal groups are recorded as notified tribal group. Tehsil wise distribution of the tribal's also vary. The highest tribal population concentrate in Dhadgaon tahisl with 97.51 percent. Tehsil wise tribal concentration is Akkalkuwa 95.29 Taloda 86.56, Shahada 61.56, Nandurbar 59.97 and Navapur 95.71.



### Research Methodology-

The Nandurbar district of Maharashtra state is selected for the present study. Qualitative as well as quantitative data were collected. The sources of data include primary as well as secondary sources. Multi social survey techniques are used to understand the socio- economic condition of the tribal and tribal handicrafts. Researcher taken a intensive Field work in form of socio- economic

survey of the families and handicraft artisan, observation, interviews with various tribal handicrafts artisan, researcher focused on group discussion village survey was undertaken. To fulfil objectives and detail study the artisan and their information collected through well designed questionnaires. The questionnaires prepared very purposefully and carefully.

The Nandurbar district consists of 943 villages. Among the 42 sample villages were selected by area sampling for the present study. For the detail and proper information 291 household are selected as respondent.

#### **Review of Literature-**

Green (2011) elucidate that physical housing conditions such as the presence of roaches, plumbing defects, and heating/cooling problems contribute significantly to mental health dysfunction such as being depressed, feeling worried, feeling sad, feeling helpless, and feeling emotionally upset. Faith (2014) found that the perceived impact of population growth on housing in Asaba and opined that increasing population places a serious demand on the available facility.

Encarta (2007) stated that Shelter is central to the existence of men Kehinde (2010) He also summarises that housing involves access to land, shelter and the necessary amenities to make the shelter functional, convenient, aesthetically pleasing, safe and hygienic. According to him, unsanitary, unhygienic, unsafe and inadequate housing can affect the security, physical health and privacy of man.

Sharma (1996) analyzed the problems and perspectives of rural housing in India. According to him poverty, low income, population growth, westernization, changes in values and environmental factors are the major reasons for houseless and low quality houses in the rural areas. Dhruvakumar and Choudhary (2008) analyzed the housing shortage in India and the limitations of Indira Awas Yojana (IYA) scheme in solving the housing problem.

Now several scholars have attempted to carry out investigating field based researches to analyze the Spatio-temporal dimensions of housing condition, ownership and living environment from micro to macro level, such studies involve interdisciplinary approaches.

Baside that Lowry (1991), Ranson (1991), Ineichen (1993), Burrige and Ormandy (1993), Raw and Hamilton (1995), Fiedler (1997), Dunn and Hayes (2000), Fuller-Thomson et al., (2000), Mackenbach and Howden-Chapman (2002), Bonnefoy et al., (2003) Evans (2003) Thomson et al., (2001), Shaw (2004) also have made noteworthy contributes on housing condition, ownership through their researches.

<b>Table No.1.1</b>								
<b>Nandurbar District: Surveyed Tribal Handicraft Artisan Population and Household to Total Sample Villages -2018.</b>								
<b>S r N o</b>	<b>Name of Tahsil</b>	<b>Name of Sample Villages</b>	<b>Total Househo ld</b>	<b>Surveye d Househo lds</b>	<b>Total Popul ation</b>	<b>Surve yed Popul ation</b>	<b>Percentage of Surveyed household to Total Household</b>	<b>Percentage of Surveyed Population to Total Population</b>
1	Akkalkuva	1.Alivihir	150	08	915	47	05.33	05.13
		2. Ambabari	79	10	1790	53	12.65	02.96
		3. Veri	344	15	1795	26	04.36	01.44
		4. Dab	697	17	4455	13	02.43	00.29
		5.Kathi	712	11	3722	22	01.54	00.59
		6. Debramal	104	04	620	20	03.84	03.22
		7.Dhankhedi	64	08	295	12	012.5	04.06
		8.Manibeli	127	06	458	19	04.72	04.14
		9.Danel	325	03	1794	31	00.92	01.72
		10.Pimpalkhuta	496	04	2744	35	00.8	01.27
2	Dhadgaon	11. Asali	416	08	2533	25	01.92	0.98
		12.Astamba	385	09	2319	26	2.33	01.12
		13Mundalwad	580	05	2799	20	0.86	00.71
		14.Mal	144	12	516	36	8.33	06.97
		15. Rajbardi	246	19	1822	56	7.72	03.07
		16.Bilgaon	227	04	1840	12	1.76	00.65
		17. Udadya	172	07	1112	17	4.06	01.52
		18. Bhabri	154	05	1052	14	3.24	01.33
3	Taloda	19. Amoni	1051	06	5939	19	0.57	00.31
		20.Kothar	309	06	1662	17	1.94	01.02
		21. Walheri	146	02	694	06	1.36	00.86
		22.Malada	323	01	1740	01	00.30	00.05

		23.Morwad	307	05	1541	21	1.62	01.36
		24. Bandhare	198	06	1047	20	3.03	01.91
		25. Dhanpur	284	04	1469	13	1.40	00.88
4	Shahada	26.Ambapur	597	03	3303	9	0.50	00.27
		27.Chandsaili	142	06	683	21	4.22	03.07
		28.Dara	159	05	830	15	3.14	01.80
		29. Ganor	613	01	3229	2	0.16	00.06
		30.Navagaon	344	05	1728	16	1.45	00.92
		31. Nimbardi	153	09	840	27	5.88	03.21
5	Nandurbar	32. Khamgaon	473	03	2373	6	0.63	00.25
		33.Dhanora	1150	03	5201	7	0.26	00.13
		34. Umaj	334	08	1892	27	2.39	01.42
		35. Wagshepa	211	06	957	20	2.84	02.08
		36. Pawle	478	05	2542	13	1.04	00.51
6	Navapur	37. Gadad	597	09	2671	26	1.50	00.97
		38.Raipur	385	11	1618	38	2.85	02.34
		39. Zamanzar	313	03	1368	10	0.95	00.73
		40. Bhovare	383	14	1677	42	3.65	02.50
		41.Bandharpada	765	12	3113	34	1.56	01.09
		42. Kamod	441	03	1651	14	0.68	00.84
		Total =	15578	291	82349	908	1.86	01.10
Source:Based on village questionnaire								

Table no 1.1 shows that 42 sample villages are selected as sample villages. There are 15578 household in 42 sample villages And 291 tribal artisan's households are selected as sample households. Percentage of Surveyed household to Total Household is 1.86 and Percentage of Surveyed Population to Total Population is 1.10. Day by day the proportion of tribal handicraft artisans is rapidly decline. Due to globalization, urbanization and modernization tribal handicraft is adversely affected. Hence in Nandurbar district in several tribal villages the art of tribal handicraft is on the way of decline.

Table No.1.2						
Nandurbar District : Housing Condition of Tribal Handicraft Artisan s- 2018.						
Sr No	Name of Tahsil	Name of Sample Village	Housing Condition/Type			
			Zopari	Kuccha	Mixed	Pucca
1.	Akkalkuva	1.Alivihir	25.30	15.40	11.90	47.4
		2. Ambabari	17.20	24.30	37.10	21.40
		3. Veri	11.90	16.70	20.30	51.10
		4. Dab	21.40	28.90	23.40	26.30
		5.Kathi	12.40	13.50	39.50	34.60
		6. Debramal	29.80	34.20	14.20	21.80
		7.Dhankhedi	26.30	22.30	27.10	24.30
		8.Manibeli	23.90	31.20	18.40	26.50
		9.Danel	9.30	45.20	28.70	16.80
		10.Pimpalkhuta	7.70	19.60	41.10	31.60
2.	Dhadgaon	11. Asali	14.70	36.10	35.40	13.80
		12.Astamba	17.20	24.10	32.80	25.90
		13Mundalwad	22.40	19.60	36.70	21.30
		14.Mal	29.40	25.10	29.40	16.10
		15. Rajbardi	23.20	29.60	36.90	10.30
		16.Bilgaon	15.20	32.40	18.70	33.70
		17. Udadya	19.90	48.20	16.30	15.60
		18. Bhabri	24.50	29.30	41.10	05.10
3.	Taloda	19. Amoni	11.20	27.10	29.80	31.90
		20.Kothar	14.10	19.50	37.40	29.00
		21. Walheri	26.10	11.30	47.90	14.70
		22.Malada	22.70	29.70	41.10	06.50
		23.Morwad	16.40	25.30	35.40	22.90
		24. Bandhare	13.70	19.80	31.80	34.70
		25. Dhanpur	18.70	27.40	45.70	08.20
4.	Shahada	26.Ambapur	10.10	17.40	31.10	41.40
		27.Chandsaili	15.10	22.20	39.50	23.20
		28.Dara	15.50	17.90	41.50	25.10
		29. Ganor	11.40	26.30	34.40	27.90
		30.Navagaon	18.40	28.70	33.90	19.00
		31. Nimbardi	11.60	21.30	47.50	19.60
5.	Nandurbar	32. Khamgaon	12.50	23.60	34.10	29.80
		33.Dhanora	4.00	17.50	24.40	54.10

		34. Umaj	10.70	21.40	31.40	36.50
		35. Wagshepa	13.50	16.20	28.70	41.60
		36. Pawle	11.70	14.20	19.20	54.90
6.	Navapur	37. Gadad	5.80	19.80	24.10	50.30
		38.Raipur	7.50	9.30	48.70	34.50
		39. Zamanzar	9.50	29.10	36.10	25.30
		40. Bhovare	13.40	16.60	42.60	27.40
		41.Bandharpada	14.50	19.30	38.40	27.80
		42. Kamod	16.20	27.60	29.10	27.10
<b>Total</b>			<b>16.90</b>	<b>23.80</b>	<b>39.20</b>	<b>20.10</b>
Source: Based on Household questionnaire.						

There are different types of houses found in the study region where tribal and non tribal people live. Houses protect them from many things like sun, rain, wind enemies and wild animals. Researcher classifies these houses into four categories.

**Zhopari-** Zhoparies are made of grass, leaves, bamboo, etc,. It is very temporary dwelling.

**Kutchu houses** -Kutchu houses are made up of wood, mud, straw and dry leaves. A hut is a kutchu house. Some people live at one place for a very short time. They build houses that can be moved from one place to another. Such houses are called temporary houses.

**Semi -Pucca house:** A house that has fixed walls made up of pucca material but roof is made up of the material other than those used for pucca house. A semi pucca construction is one of which either the roof or the walls but not both is made of pucca materials like burnt bricks , stone cement, concrete or timber.

**Pucca house** -Pucca house refers to dwellings that are designed to be solid and permanent. This term is applied to housing in South Asia built of substantial material such as stone, brick, cement, concrete, or timber. The term pucca means "solid" and "permanent", from Hindustani . It is contrasted with kutchu housing referring to buildings of flimsy construction. Pucca homes are typically made of concrete, stone, clay tiles and/or metal, in contrast to older homes made of mud and organic material. These building methods are more costly and labor-intensive than the more traditional building methods. Pucca houses are strong houses. They are made up of wood, bricks, cement, iron rods and steel. Flats and bungalows are pucca houses. Such houses are called permanent houses.

Table no 1.2 clearly shows the housing condition of tribal handicraft artisans in Nandurbar district. According to the findings of household survey 16.90 percent tribal handicraft artisans are living their own zopari, 23.80 percent in kuchha houses, 39.20 percent in semi pucca and only 20.10 percent are living in pucca houses. The proportion of house types varies from one village to the other village and tehsil.

Highest proportion of Zopari is found in Debramal with 29.80 percent followed by Mal, Walheri, Malda, and Mundalwad with 29.40, 26.10, 22.70, and 22.40 percent respectively. These villages are located in Satpura mountain ranges and are surrounded by dense forest. In these villages vegetative material are easily available. Hence widely used in the house construction. Beside that proportion of below poverty line is very high. They sell their handicraft article in local market in very low prices. As a result the proportion of Zopari in these villages is very high.

Among the sample villages maximum Kuchha houses existed in Udadya sample village with 48.20 per cent followed by Danel, Asali, Debramal, and Bilgaon with 45.20, 36.10, 34.20, and 32.40 percent respectively. These villages are well known for the dominant proportion of tribal people and are socially and economically backward. Mud, stone, wood, and tin is used as building material.



Researcher found that in the study region proportion of mixed houses are highest it is up to 39.20 percent. Among the sample villages maximum mixed houses existed in Raipur sample village with 48.70 percent followed by Walheri, Nimbari, Dhanpur, and Bhovare with 47.90,47.50,45.70 and 42.60 percent respectively. Lowest proportion of mixed houses are found in Alivihir with 11.90 percent followed by Debramal, Udadya, Bilgaon and Waghshera with 14.20,16.30,18.70, and 19.20 percent respectively. In 75.00 percent sample villages the proportion of mixed houses is about 20.0 to 40.10 percent. The trend of construction of mixed houses is comparatively high. Beside that the cost of mixed houses is compare to pucca houses is also low. Hence the Tribal Handicraft Artisans are attracted towards the mixed houses.

According to available data and field observations most of the pucca houses are found in Pawale sample village rank first with 54.90 percent followed by Dhanora, Veri, Gadad, and Alivihir with 54.10,51.10,50.30, and 47.40 percent respectively. These sample villages are well connected with metalled road and are also known for agricultural prosperity as has been observed during the field work. Beside that all these villages are economically developed. Dhanora is a well-known rural center and a big market centre. Lowest proportion of pucca houses are observed in Bhabari with 05.10 percent followed by Malada, Dhanpur, Rajbari, and Asali with 06.50,08.20, 10.30, and 13.80 percent respectively. Cement ,concrete, steel , wood, glass and glazed tiles are used as building material.

#### **Conclusion –**

The findings provide empirical evidence of the relationship between poverty, housing conditions, and quality of life in tribal areas. Housing is not only a physical shelter but also plays a significant role in a person's physical, mental, and emotional health conditions with regards to the qualitative dimensions provided by the housing condition and the surrounding environment of the dwelling area. Unfortunately, the housing conditions in Nandurbar district are lacking all these aspects and failed to provide these important dimensions. Only 20.10 percent houses are pucca, till this day 16.90 percent tribal artisans live in Zopari. Due to the strong significant relationship with the quality of life, we highly suggest that housing condition to be seriously considered as a socio-economic indicator in the assessment or measurement of tribal areas poverty. A study should also be done on finding the optimal housing conditions of the poor tribal in Nandurbar district in terms of the physical aspect of the house (design, size, materials used) and the surrounding areas (location, landscape, availability of public amenities and services). Failures to address the housing issues of the tribal areas might cause the group to be continuously marginalized in the society and deprived of a quality life.

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