



ISSN 2278 – 0211 (Online)

A Sociological Study on Dalit Women Development through Industrialization

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Abstract:

Dalit women are also called as indigenous people in this society. Before industrialization they have suffered from extreme social and economic backwardness. Since 21st century, the status of women in India has been changing as a result of growing industrialization. A study was carried out with the sample of 50 Dalit women respondents of working in few factories of Hassan city of Hassan district of Karnataka state. For this study, qualitative method was used. The analysis has been done on the basis of in-depth interviews with those who are Dalit working women in few factories of Hassan city. For this study, data was collected from 50 Dalit women by using both purposive and random sampling. The present paper aims to find out the social, economic and educational development of Dalit women. The main finding of the study shown that through industrialization Dalit women are aware about their problems, after getting job their ability is increased to solving and actively facing any problems, and protest against their exploitation.

Keywords: Dalit, women, industrialization and development

1. Introduction

It is widely recognized that indigenous people are among the most marginalized and vulnerable groups. They are being increasingly displaced from their customary lands and deprived of their natural resources by national or transnational interests; as a consequence of their marginalization, they are also victims of human rights violations. Within indigenous communities, women often represent the most disadvantaged category, due to their lack of or limited access to assets such as land, literacy and participation in decision making process. In many states Indigenous women are faced numerous barriers in their access to education, health care, sanitation and other basic services.

For thousand years, Dalits women are suppressed in Indian society. Now the time has been changed and the revolution has started through the developmental activities. Dalit concept has changed and the new emerged concept directed towards the deprived group of the society. On the basis of caste, gender and stages of life people have formed a set so called as Dalits. Dalit women are aware towards their rights and now we can see their developments through industrialization, urbanization and modernization processes.

Industrialization is the process of social and economic change whereby a human group is transformed from a pre-industrial society into an industrial one. It is also a means of modernization. Industrialization can solve the problems of economic development as its main objectives are reduction of income inequalities, growth of national income and alleviation of poverty. Development and expansion are closely associated as revealed by the experience of certain industrial nations. Industrialization is a continuing process. There is no country of the world which does not wish to industrialize itself. But industrialization is having its impact and effects on social economic and political life of the society. Sometime these effects are so deep rooted that it becomes difficult for the society to keep pace with them. The result is that there are many problems created by it. However, the social changes that took place were not all negative, most classes eventually benefited in some way from the huge profits that most workers were making somewhat better wages. Industrialization was key to women's entrance in the job market. With industrialization many jobs were created and there weren't enough men to occupy those positions that are when women got their space. Women are found in a large number in the work force today. The great industrial revolution and the consequent industrialization opened the doors of employment for women. Women started availing themselves of the employment opportunities in almost all the civilized countries including India. Dalit women are also called as indigenous people in this society. Before industrialization they have suffered from extreme social and economic backwardness. Since the 21st century, the status of Dalit women in India has been changing as a result to growing industrialization and urbanization, spasmodic mobility and social legislation, over the years, more and more women are going in for higher education, technical and professional education and their proportion in the workforce has also been increased.

Provision of employment opportunities for women on wage, salary or other type of remuneration basis outside the family has been a socio-economic development of great importance. Women's increasing involvement in paid labour force has led to a number of social consequences. At present through industrialization women are moving towards social, economical and educational development. This study is about Dalit women development through industrialization. For this we are trying to give findings through the sociological study.

1.1. Objective of the Study

1. To collect the information about demographic profile of the respondents.
2. To study about the Dalit women are developing through industrialization.
3. To study about the social, economical and educational development of Dalit women.

2. Research Methodology

The present study is based on the primary data which is collected from Dalit women working in few factories of Hassan city of Hassan district of Karnataka state. Through the purposive and random sampling methods 50 Dalit women respondents were selected to generate primary data. Detailed information of the attitudes and opinions of the respondents were collected through pre-tested structured interview schedule which is comprised of pre-coded and open – ended questions regarding objectives of the research. The primary data was collected employing interview schedule directly from the respondents and the secondary data were collected from books, journals and website related to Dalit women and industrialization. The data collections are processed in a systematic way. The data are edited for checking their completeness and accuracy. The data is tabulated and processed in the table by using computer.

2.1. Limitation of the Study

The present study had some limitations. It exposed to a difficulty of getting most reliable information about Dalit women development through industrialization. The respondents were not fully aware about the research being conducted on them which resulted are fewer co-operations by them. Moreover, observations of this study were based on the research field study of only a few factories of Hassan city which is a small part of Karnataka.

3. Results and Discussion

Sl. No.	Options	Frequency	Percent
01.	Age		
	18-22	24	48
	23-27	10	20
	28-31	09	18
	32-36	05	10
	Above 37	02	04
02.	Caste		
	SC	28	56
	ST	09	18
	Others	13	26
03.	Educational Qualification		
	Primary	08	16
	Middle	05	10
	High school	11	22
	PUC	22	44
	Degree	03	06
	Diploma	01	02
04.	Marital status		
	Unmarried	20	40
	Married	25	50
	Divorcees	03	06
	Widows	02	04
05.	Family Structure		
	Joint family	05	10
	Nuclear family	45	90
06.	Monthly Income		
	2,001-3,000	21	42
	3,001-4,000	17	34
	4,001-5,000	08	16
	Above 5,001	04	08

Table 1: Demographic Profile of the respondents

The result pertaining to demographic profile of the Dalit women are depicted in table 01. The data table 01 revealed that 48% of respondents are in the age group of 18-22. 20% of respondents are in the age group of 23-27. 18% of respondents are in the age group of 28-31, 10% of respondents are in the age group of 32-36. Only 04% of respondents are in the age group of above 37. The data indicated that in Hindu religion majority 56% of respondents belongs scheduled castes, and 18% of respondents are belongs to scheduled tribes, and remaining 26% of respondents are belongs to other caste of Hindu religion. It was noticed that 16% of respondents had primary education and they were not get education more that because of their non interest and due to lack of co-operation by their family. 10% of respondents got middle school education. 22% of them belong to high school education, majority 44% of respondents belong to the PUC, 06% of respondents got degree and 04% of respondents got diploma education. The data indicated that 40% of respondents are unmarried, 50% of respondents married, 06% of respondents are divorcees and remaining 04% of respondents are widows. It was observed that 42% of respondents are getting 2001-3000 of salary, 34% of respondents are getting 3001-4000, and 16% of respondents getting 4001-5000 and only 08% of respondents are getting above 5001.

Aspects	Frequency		Percent	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Increasing self-confidence.	42	08	84	16
Good respect from the family and society.	40	10	80	20
Changes in living condition.	35	15	70	30
Increasing self-decision making.	38	12	76	24
Sense of independence	32	18	64	36
Increasing ability to solve problems.	36	14	72	28
Family co-operation.	44	06	88	12
Suspicion about character	10	40	20	80
Increasing ability to protest against exploitation	42	08	84	16
Awareness about importance of the education.	50	00	100	00
Freedom to enjoy rights	43	07	86	14
Economic self sufficiency	37	13	74	26
Freedom to expenses earning money for own use.	34	16	68	32
Freedom of opinion to buying and selling of family property or things.	24	26	48	52
Having insurance policies	33	17	66	34
Importance to the opinion in taking loans	30	20	60	40
Efforts in family income	50	00	100	00
Increasing ability to maintain family financial works	39	11	78	22
Inequality in wages	28	22	56	44
Changes in the life style through the economic opportunities.	33	17	66	34
Happy with factory works	36	14	72	28
Decrease in the feeling of inferiority complex as women.	43	07	86	14

Table 2: Developmental Aspects of Dalit women

Table 02 revealed that the opinion of Dalit women about their social, economic and educational development aspects.

- Self-confidence is one of the basic requirements of Dalit women. This study finds out that 84% of respondents are felt that their self-confidence is increasing after getting jobs through industrialization. But 16% of respondents are facing lack of self-confidence due to the cause of social attitude towards Dalit women.
- Every person should have good respect from the family and society. This study revealed that 80% of respondents are felt that they are getting good respect from the family and society. Before industrialization they were facing lack of respect from family and society. But now they are getting good respect from family and society. 20% of respondents are opined that though they got job they can't get respect from family and society because of male dominancy.
- Before industrialization Dalit women did not enjoy any social respect. These were considered just subordinate of men and also upper caste people. But today their conditions have very much improved. 70% of respondents are felt that their living conditions are changing through industrialization. But 30% of respondents though they got job their living conditions are not changing because of more poverty.
- Decision making is not an easy task it is full of risk, if a person took wrong decision it may affects their whole life. So while taking decisions they must be careful. So as per concerned to this 76% of respondents are felt that their self-decision making is increasing through getting job. But 24% of respondents are felt that they are facing lack of self-decision making due to the reason of dependency on their family and husband.
- After getting job through industrialization the women come out of their houses, away from their family with the result that they develop a sense of independence. It was observed that 64% of respondents felt that after getting job they are developing

their sense of independence. But 36% of respondents are can't develop their sense of independence because of their dependency on the family.

- Every human being should have ability to solve their problems. 72% of respondents are felt that after getting job their ability is increasing to solving and actively facing any problems. But 28% of respondents are felt that they are facing lack of ability to solving their problems due to the reason of lacking of self-confidence and they are depended on their family.
- Family is one of the important units of the society. Family co-operation is essential criteria to achieve anything. In that 88% of respondents are felt that they had good family co-operation to actively work in factory and they fully supportive to them. But 12% of respondents are felt that their family members do not co-operative to them. Because they don't like to support women work participation in factories.
- After getting job 20% of respondents felt that they are facing the problem of suspicion about their character from family side. But majorities 80% of respondents are free from this problem because their family members trusted about them.
- From the long time Dalit women are facing much exploitation from men side and also upper caste people. Through industrialization Dalit women are aware about their problems. It was noticed that 84% of respondents are felt that after getting job their ability is increasing to protest against their exploitation. But 16% of them felt that still they are facing the problem of exploitation.
- Education is one of the basic activities of people in all human societies. Education creates an opportunity for each and every person to enlighten themselves by acquiring knowledge. Likewise, Dalit women are also not exceptional from this. Day by day education is gaining more and more importance. This study finds out that 100% of respondents are felt that they had awareness about importance of the education.
- Our constitution gave human rights to every person of the Indian society. From the long period Dalit women were faced lack of freedom to enjoy their rights due to the reason of upper castes dominancy. But at present in industrial society education among Dalit women is spreading. These are becoming demand their rights. 86% of respondents felt that through getting job their freedom is increasing to enjoy their own rights. But 14% of them reported that they are facing lack of freedom to enjoy their rights because of male dominancy.
- In the new factories Dalit women, according to their ability and capability they get employment. Thus these become economically self – sufficient. 74% of respondents are reported that through getting job they became economically self-sufficient. But 26% of respondents facing lack of economic self-sufficiency because of low level of occupation.
- Economic stability is very important for both men and women; without stability they can't live properly in the society. Economic stability made women to develop themselves. 68% of respondents are reported that after getting job their freedom is increased to expenses the earning money for own use. But 32% of respondents are facing lack of freedom to expenses the earning money for own use, because of their family dependency and they are acting as the supporters of their own family.
- This study noticed that 48% of respondents are felt that they are respected in their family by giving prominence in freedom of opinion to house oriented matters, like in financial matters, buying and selling of family property or things. But 52% of respondents are felt that there is no freedom for opinion in family matters, they have to depend on the decision of other members of the family. And they don't have any ownership in financial matters, due to this reason there is no too much importance for their opinion.
- It was observed that 66% of respondents are that after getting job they having insurance facilities to secure their life. But 34% of respondents still they don't have any insurance policies.
- This study finds out that 60% of respondents reported that after getting job their family members gave importance to the opinion in taking loans for family sake. But 40% of them reported that they don't have any importance to the opinion in taking loans due to the reason of male dominancy.
- This study result shows that 100% of respondents opined that their effort is very important in source of family income to lead their family life properly.
- It was noticed that 78% of respondents are felt that through their job their ability is increasing to maintain their family financial works like children education, marriage of family members, basic needs of family etc. But 22% of them felt that they are facing lack of ability to maintain family financial works due to the reason of low level of income.
- 56% of respondents reported that they are facing inequality in wages and 44% of respondents satisfied with their wages.
- Economic opportunity can change our life style. So in that 66% of respondents are reported that after getting job their life style is changing through the economic opportunities. 44% of respondents are not found any changes in their life style through the economic opportunities, because of they are unsatisfied with their economic opportunities.
- 72% of respondents are happy and satisfied with their work in factory. But 28% of respondents are not satisfied with their work because of unequal wages and lack of basic facilities in working place.
- This study revealed that 86% of respondents they can achieve anything without any inferiority complex as Dalit women who are required for society and country. 14% of them due to the low level of education they are still under the family control made them to have feeling of inferiority complex.

3.1. Findings of the Study

The important observations and findings are as follows.

- Majority of the respondents were from younger age group, and were married and belonged to nuclear family.

- Dalit women self-confidence is increased after getting jobs.
- Before industrialization Dalit women were facing lack of respect from family and society. But now they are got good respect from family and society.
- Dalit women self-decision making is increased through getting job, and they developed their sense of independence.
- Through industrialization Dalit women are aware about their problems and after getting job their ability is increased to solving and actively facing any problem and protest against their exploitation.
- Majority Dalit women had good family co-operation to actively work in factory and they fully supportive to them.
- Through industrialization Dalit women had awareness about importance of the education.
- Through getting job Dalit women freedom is increased to enjoy their rights. And expenses the earning money for own use.
- Through industrialization Dalit women were getting job opportunities. Even though they are facing some problems with respect to their living condition, economic condition, lack of facilities in work place, inequality in wages, lack of family support and inferiority complex about themselves.

3.2. Suggestions

- The basic approach should be to inculcate the confidence among Dalit women and bring about an awareness of their own potential for development.
- Family support should be need for Dalit women to work in factories.
- For better performances of Dalit women participation three factors are required.
 - They should be need of equality
 - They should be need of efficiency
 - They should be need of empowerment
- In work place, if a man and a woman are at the same position, both of them should be given equal importance when it comes to decision making.
- Unequal distribution of wages should be eradicated from factories.
- Training facilities should be given to them by government.
- The awareness should be increased in the society to increase positive attitude towards Dalit working women.

4. Conclusion

The present study is an attempt to find out the Dalit women development through industrialization. This study is deals with the social, Educational, economical, development of Dalit women. Through this study we can find maximum Dalit women are developed through industrialization as developmental activities. But some women are not more developed in this way it is because of their low level of education, non-co-operation by their family members and inequality in wages. People should be change their notion about Dalit women and give more importance to development of Dalit women. If women are developed, then the hole society is also become developed society.

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