

11306

331.8

SERVANTS OF INDIA SOCIETY'S LIBRARY
POONA 411 004

CN

AcN 11306

Date of release for loan

This book should be returned on or before the last date stamped below.

An overdue charge of 5 paise will be levied for each day the book is kept beyond this date.

25 DEC 1975

2 MAR 1976

8 APR 1976

22 JAN 2009



Some Children of the Untouchable Classes.



Some Children of the Untouchable Classes.

**UNTOUCHABLE WORKERS
OF
BOMBAY CITY**

**BY
G. R. PRADHAN, PH. D.**

**WITH A FOREWORD BY
B. R. AMBEDKAR, M. A., PH. D., D. Sc.,
Bar-at-Law, J. P.**

**KARNATAK PUBLISHING HOUSE
BOMBAY**

1938

X:9(Y5927).231

G8
11306

Printed by M. N. Kulkarni at the Karnatak Printing Press, Chira Bazar,
Bombay 2, and published by him at the Karnatak Publishing House,
Chira Bazar Bombay 2.

FOREWORD

This treatise is a thesis which the author wrote in fulfilment of the requirements prescribed by the University of Bombay for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Arts. That it was accepted by the University should constitute sufficient recommendation in favour of its merits and no such thing as a Foreword from me should have been thought necessary by the Author. I do not know why the author feels the necessity of a word from me. Probably, that I come from the community whose life has been the subject-matter of his investigation is the reason which has led him to call upon me to write a Foreword and I gladly respond to his invitation.

The author has studied the life of the Untouchables in the City of Bombay under various heads and thus gives a quantitative idea of the extent of the overcrowding, the earnings, employment, debts etc. that prevails among the Untouchables. He has collected data which is certainly valuable. In any statistical investigation the question that arises is whether the cases studied are typical or not. The average to be normal, the cases investigated must be typical. There is no reason to suppose that his cases are not typical. It may, therefore, be taken that the picture of the life of the Untouchables he has given is a true picture.

This study would have been of greater value if it had been a comparative study contrasting the social condition of the Untouchables with that of the Caste-Hindus. But that it is not. Such a study was all the more necessary in view of the opinion expressed by the author that conversion would

make no difference to the condition of the Untouchables. A conclusion to this effect could be right only on a comparison, drawn between Untouchables on the one hand and caste Hindus on the other, if it is proved that the Untouchable does not suffer by reason of his untouchability. But if on comparison it is found that the Untouchable suffers in his earnings, in his employment and in other respects in a competitive society as against a caste Hindu and if this disadvantage is attributable to no factor other than untouchability, then it will have to be admitted that the case for conversion was strong. But all that must await a comparative study. Such a study will have to be undertaken some day either by the author of this book or by someone else if the present study is to be a useful guide for understanding why the conclusions drawn by the author are what they are; and whether the difference if any in the condition of the touchables and untouchables is due to any such social factor as untouchability. As a preliminary to such an effort the booklet must be welcomed.

Rajgrah, Dadar, }
10-2-1938. }

B. R. AMBEDKAR

PREFACE

The Depressed Classes, to whom the data presented in the following pages refers, belong to the Bombay city. Of the schedules, which were collected during the years 1933-35, 985 were collected from the Marathi speaking and 634 from the Gujarati speaking families.

Such a task is too big for a single individual and I sincerely thank all those who helped me in this great task. I respectfully acknowledge the debt of gratitude which I owe to my teacher Professor G. S. Ghurye, Head of the Department of Sociology of the University of Bombay, for without his encouragement, help and guidance it would have been difficult for me to accomplish this task. I am grateful to Dr. B. R. Ambedker for writing a Foreword to this book.

When nobody could undertake to translate the Marathi folk-songs into English Mr. V. K. Joshi, M. A. came to my help and within a remarkably short time translated most of the songs and thus relieved me of a great anxiety. I thank him for the same. I sincerely thank Mr. R. G. Gokhale, B.Com. for making some useful suggestions in regard to the titles to different tables.

Thanks are due to Messrs M. Y. Pradhan and Ganpatbuwa Jadhav for their great help in collecting schedules from the Marathi speaking families and to Messrs. Sopariwalla and Marwadi of the Hindu Sevak Samaj for enabling me to obtain the same from the Gujarati speaking families.

To Messrs. K. G. Akshikar B. A., B. T. and V. M. Dhamankar B. A. I am indebted for correcting proofs and to the latter for helping me to prepare the Index also,

make no difference to the condition of the Untouchables. A conclusion to this effect could be right only on a comparison, drawn between Untouchables on the one hand and caste Hindus on the other, if it is proved that the Untouchable does not suffer by reason of his untouchability. But if on comparison it is found that the Untouchable suffers in his earnings, in his employment and in other respects in a competitive society as against a caste Hindu and if this disadvantage is attributable to no factor other than untouchability, then it will have to be admitted that the case for conversion was strong. But all that must await a comparative study. Such a study will have to be undertaken some day either by the author of this book or by someone else if the present study is to be a useful guide for understanding why the conclusions drawn by the author are what they are; and whether the difference if any in the condition of the touchables and untouchables is due to any such social factor as untouchability. As a preliminary to such an effort the booklet must be welcomed.

Rajgrah, Dadar, }
10-2-1938. }

B. R. AMBEDKAR

PREFACE

The Depressed Classes, to whom the data presented in the following pages refers, belong to the Bombay city. Of the schedules, which were collected during the years 1933-35, 985 were collected from the Marathi speaking and 634 from the Gujarati speaking families.

Such a task is too big for a single individual and I sincerely thank all those who helped me in this great task. I respectfully acknowledge the debt of gratitude which I owe to my teacher Professor G. S. Ghurye, Head of the Department of Sociology of the University of Bombay, for without his encouragement, help and guidance it would have been difficult for me to accomplish this task. I am grateful to Dr. B. R. Ambedker for writing a Foreword to this book.

When nobody could undertake to translate the Marathi folk-songs into English Mr. V. K. Joshi, M. A. came to my help and within a remarkably short time translated most of the songs and thus relieved me of a great anxiety. I thank him for the same. I sincerely thank Mr. R. G. Gokhale, B.Com. for making some useful suggestions in regard to the titles to different tables.

Thanks are due to Messrs M. Y. Pradhan and Ganpat-buwa Jadhav for their great help in collecting schedules from the Marathi speaking families and to Messrs. Sopariwalla and Marwadi of the Hindu Sevak Samaj for enabling me to obtain the same from the Gujarati speaking families.

To Messrs. K. G. Akshikar B. A., B. T. and V. M. Dhamankar B. A. I am indebted for correcting proofs and to the latter for helping me to prepare the Index also,

The proprietor and the staff of the Karnatak Publishing House have shown uniform courtesy for which they deserve my sincere thanks.

Finally, I acknowledge my indebtedness to the University of Bombay for the substantial help it has granted towards the cost of publication of this work.

36/ B. Dattatraya Nivas }
DADAR, BOMBAY. }
15-2-1938. }

G. R. PRADHAN

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGES
FOREWORD	i
PREFACE	iii
1 INTRODUCTORY	1—9
2 HOUSING	10—24
3 MARRIAGE	25—34
4 FAMILY	35—39
5 FERTILITY	40—46
6 EMPLOYMENT	47—59
7 EARNINGS	60—64
8 FOOD	65—69
9 CLOTHING	70—72
10 EDUCATION	73—74
11 DISEASES AND CURES	75—81
12 VITAL STATISTICS	82—93
13 VICE	94—101
14 EXPENSES ON RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES ...	102—103
15 INDEBTEDNESS	104—108
16 CONCLUSION	109—121

APPENDICES

A.—SOME FAMILY STUDIES	125—136
B.—MARRIAGE CEREMONIES	139—143
C.—FOLK-SONGS	147—162
D.—SURNAMES	165—166

APPENDIX D
SURNAMES

APPENDIX D

SURNAMES

The Marathi-speaking Depressed Classes have many family or surnames. Just as among the Hindus Sagotra marriage does not take place, similarly amongst these people marriage between two families having the same surnames does not take place. In the Marathi speaking sample following surnames occur :—

- A : Arao, Ambolkar, Ankush, Ahire, Agham, Abhang, Ade, Adejadhao, Ayre, Arde, Adhe, Adhao, Alat, Apte, Adangle, Apre.
- B : Barwe, Bandsode, Bankar, Bankhade, Bandrike, Bedekar, Bodke, Borge, Bambharkar, Bagul, Borade, Budravan, Bhosle, Bhadivare, Bhurugare, Bhavre, Bhalerao, Buva, Bhoikar, Bhandgale, Bhangurde, Bhandare, Bhirve.
- C : Chavan, Chevalkar.
- D : Dethe, Dangle, Dhutre, Dakavde, Dhadge, Dashahajare, Dhaptadke, Dhende, Danane, Dharpawar, Dolas, Diwale, Dhangar, Dhamre, Dinde, Dhepe, Dive, Durwe, Dhivar, Dere, Dhotpagar, Dandavat, Dongardive, Dhagle.
- G : Gatkamble, Gangavane, Garadi, Garud, Godse, Gavli, Gangakush, Gangurde, Gaikwad, Gunjal, Gade, Gamre, Gaware, Garade, Gaytadke, Gondaval, Gavre, Gulsavkar, Galwe, Gharware.
- H : Hambare, Hebale, Hire, Hede, Halde, Hartale, Hasajale.
- I : Ingie, Ibrahimpurkar.

- J** : Jadhao, Jagpale, Jagtap, Jagdane, Jawle, Janvade.
- K** : Kale, Kadam, Kharate, Kasim, Kharnak, Kakde, Kharat, Kalme, Khaire, Kunde, Kahuki, Khure, Khalzi, Kamble, Katanvari, Kudwe, Kasare, Kavde, Kedar, Khadezode, Kelshikar, Kapre, Kashikedar, Kalsapkar, Khande, Khandade, Khagdekar, Khamgaokar, Kasne, Khatik, Khadalak, Kapdekar.
- L** : Lavande, Lakde, Lokhande, Lambade, Logde, Ladhepratap, Londhe.
- M** : Mhatre, Misal, Mohite, Mane, Matsabe, Mhasane, Mabad, Mumle, Mohire, Malwe, Mavle, Mukhavalkar, Marsande, Maharkar, Mahadik, Mankar, Mirale, More, Mevalkar, Male, Mukhadkar, Marchand.
- N** : Nikalje, Nirvane, Nachekar, Nagare, Nile, Nikam, Navgire, Nanavare, Nimkar.
- O** : Ozarkar, Ovhal.
- P** : Padwal, Panpatil, Patankar, Patekar, Penkar, Patkule, Pevekar, Phanse, Palwe, Pandit, Basare, Phole, Pawar, Powar, Pethe, Patil, Phulpagar, Pote, Pagare.
- R** : Ramraje, Rasal, Rukhe, Ravaa, Randive, Rajvle, Rupore, Ragpasari, Rannavre, Ranshevde, Rokde, Rangude.
- S** : Savlekar, Sonkamble, Surya, Savle, Satpute, Sohale, Shejavle, Saluke, Sonavli, Sheke, Shedavle, Sadge, Sartape, Sonval, Sawant, Shinde, Sontate, Sakpal, Sane, Sartape, Suryagan, Shirsat, Salve, Salvi, Sadhare, Shirke, Sukhe, Sagate, Suryavanshi, Sukhade, Sonavane, Sakhare, Savnikar, Salvekar, Savarkar.
- T** : Tavle, Thorat, Tambe, Tribhuvan, Trikale, Tabhavre, Tarangane, Tapase, Tirwe, Tatke, Tamhankar.
- U** : Ughade, Ubale, Urankar, Unanve.
- V** : Virhe, Vadane, Vavle, Vaykar, Varsekar, Vadekar, Vahal.
- W** : W. Wagh, Waghmare.
- Y** : Yeole, Yele, Yadao.

INDEX.

A

- Act, Sarda, 25, 120
- Ahmed, Dr. M. B., 82
- Ailments, 80, 83
- Ambedker, Dr. B. R., 2, 3, 115, 116
- Annihilation of Caste*, 115, 116
- Anniversaries, Death, 102
- Aryan Path*, 1, 109

B

- Beef, 65, 83.
- Beer, 98, 99.
- Bhagat, Mr. M. G., 110, 114, 115
- Bhangis, 47.
- Bombay Development Department, 13, 15, 21, 22, 23
- Bombay Improvement Trust, 15, 17, 21, 23
- Bombay Municipality, 15, 17, 21, 22
- Bowley, Mr. A. L., 21

C

- Caste and Race*, 120
- Caste, Schedules according to, 8
- Census of India*, 1, 19, 21
- Ceremonies, Religious, 102, 103
- Ceremonies, Marriage, 139-142
- Chamars, 9, 16, 33, 91.
- Children born per man, 40, 41
- Children born per woman, 43, 44
- Children living per house-hold, 45, 46
- Children, Death-rates among, 84-88

- Children, Causes of death among, 89, 90
- Christianity, 3, 8
- Clothing, 70
- Clothing, Expenditure on, 71, 72
- Conference, Mahar, 2
- Conference, Round Table, 2
- Confinement, Arrangement for, 91, 92
- Confinement, Expenses on, 92
- Conversion, 2, 3
- Corporation, Bombay, 16
- Cotton figures, 100
- Court, Small Causes, 16

D

- Def*, 25, 31, 32
- Deshpande, Mr. S. R., 114
- Dispensaries, Charitable, 77, 78
- Dispensaries, Reforms in, 118
- Diseases, 80, 83
- Doctors, Attitude of, 79,
- Doctors, Quacks, 76, 77, 78, 79
- Domestic servants, 59
- Dowry, 25, 31, 32
- Drinks, Persons addicted to, 98, 99
- Dukheta*, 143.

E

- Earners by employers, 49, 51, 53, 58, 59
- Earners, by employment, 50, 54, 55, 56, 57
- Earners, Families according to, 48, 52

- Economic and Social Survey of a Konkan Village*, 115
 Education, Attitude of parents on, 74
 Education, Compulsory, 73, 120
 Education, Industrial, 120, 121
- F**
- Family, Composition of, 35, 37, 38, 39, 114
 Family-studies, 125, 136
 Federation, International Textile Workers, of, 10
 Fertility of man, 40, 41
 Fertility of woman, 43, 44
 Folk-songs, 147
 Food, 65, 75
 Food, Expenditure on, 66, 67, 68, 69
- G**
- Gandhi, Mahatma, M. K., 2
Ganja, 99
 Gas, Carbonic acid, 12
 Ghurye, Prof. G. S., 1, 109, 114, 115, 117, 120.
- H**
- Hawkers, 17, 82, 83
 Hindu Sevak Samaj, 84
Housing and Labour in Bombay, 10
 Housing, Reforms in, 116, 117, 118
 Hurst, Mr. Burnett, 10
- I**
- Income per family, 61
 Income per head, 60
 Income-groups, Comparison with other classes by, 110, 111
 Income groups, Expenditure on food by, 66, 67, 68, 69
 Income groups, Families by, 61
 Income-groups, Persons per family, by 62, 63
 Income-groups, Principal earners by, 60
 Income-groups, Rooms occupied by each family by, 63, 64
 Indebtedness, Causes of, 104
 creditors 106, magnitude 107, 112, 113, rates of interest 108, scheme to lighten 112, 113
Indian Journal of Economics, 114
Infant Welfare work in Europe, 118
 Intercourse, Pre-puberty 31
- J**
- Jategaon Budruk, 114
Jatra, 102
Journal of the Bombay University, 110
- K**
- Kanji*, 83
 Kankayya, 16
Kashiyatra, 25
 Knowledge, Sex 13, 30
- L**
- Labour Camp, 13, 26
Labour Gazette, 14, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 117
Land and Labour in a Deccan Village, 114
 Localities, Schedules according to, 5, 6, 7
 Le Play, Frederick, 125, 128

M

- Mahar, 2, 3, 8, 9, 47
 Mahimwalla's chawl, 13
 Mang-garudis, 3, 32, 99
 Manu, Mr. H. H. 114.
 Market, New York 101
 Marriage, age at, 25, 26; dinners
 31, 32; expenditure 32, 33, 34;
 females classified according to
 30, males classified according to,
 26, 27, programmes 32,
 Marriage ceremonies, 139-142:
 Bath 140, *Dhedga*, 141; *Haldi*
 140; *Kanbai* 141; *Mangalasthak*
 140, 141, 142; *oti* 139, *Ovalani*
 142; *Sukharpada* 139, 141.
Marriage and Morals, 4
 Maternity, 35, 91, 92, 119; Expen-
 ses on 92, 93
*Measurement of Social Pheno-
 mena*, 21
 Meghawalas 26, 33, 47
*Memorandum of the Govt. of
 Bombay to the Royal Commis-
 sion on Indian Labour*, 22
 Mortality, Infant, Causes of, 89-90

N

- Native places 3, 35
 Nuisance, Smoke, 12, 16, 22.

O

- Over-crowding, 11, 18, 114, 115

P

- Pact, Poona, 2
Panchayat, 32
 Pimla-Saudagar, 114

- Platforms or berths, for sleeping
 upon, 13
*Problem of Rural Uplift in
 India*, 82
 Prostitutes, 7, 13, 17, 30, 94
 atmosphere with 94; customers
 of, 94, 97; lover of 98.
 Prostitution, Locality of, 94;
 Causes of 95, 98

R

- Ranade, Mr. V. G. 115.
 Re-marriage, Reasons for, 28, 29
 Rent, 23, 24.
 Report, Director of Public Health
 119
 Report, Enquiry into Working
 Class Family Budgets, 110, 111
 112, 114, 117
 Report, Industrial Disputes Com-
 mittee, 14
 Report of the Lady Doctor 14,
 Report, Royal Commission on
 Indian Labour 10, 11, 15, 23,
 104, 105
 Revolution, The Industrial, 35
 Rooms by number of occupants
 18, 19.
 Rooms, Comparison between D.C.
 and other classes, 113
 Russell, Mr. Bertrand 4,

S

- Sangh Harijan, 121
 Satta-khel, 100
 Shaw, The Rt. Hon. T. 10,
 Sickness, 80, 81, 83
 Social Service League, 121
 Society, Co-operative Credit, 106

Society, Hindu, 1, 3, 84
 "Some Village Studies," 114
 Spirit, Denatured, 99
 Sub-tenant, 14, 15, 116
 Surnames, 165, 166

T

Tamasha, 30
Tilli, 83
 Toddy, 99

U

Unemployment, 49, 53
 "Untouchable classes of Maharastra," 110, 114, 115

V

Vital statements, 84-88

W

Water-closets, 11, 23, 117
 Water-taps, 23, 117

Y

Yeola, Proclamation at, 2, 3.
 Young Men's Christian Association 18, 84

CHECKED
2003-04