

' TRIBALS IN AN URBAN SETTING '
**(A STUDY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF POONA CITY
ON THE MAHADEO KOLIS)**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED
TO THE
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PREFACE

In India large scale movement of people is directed from rural areas to the centres of economic growth, particularly the developing industrial and urban centres. This process of movement of rural population is also found among the Scheduled Tribes in Maharashtra, particularly among the Mahadeo Kolis who are found in the contiguous areas of three important industrial and urban centres in Maharashtra--Bombay, Poona and Nasik. Many of them have migrated to these centres to earn their livelihood. A bulk of their population is found in Poona where they are engaged in urban occupations in a new economic set-up. Such a migration of the people from a tribal into urban environment invariably creates some problems for their assimilation into the normal life of the society.

The present study is an attempt to understand the socio-economic impact of city life on the Mahadeo Kolis. It is obviously difficult to make an attempt to demarcate the socio-economic impact of Poona city on these people. However, for a proper understanding of the impact of the Poona city it is of paramount importance to know their background. Hence the prevailing socio-economic condition of the same tribe in their native territory is traced for meaningful understanding of the Mahadeo Kolis and as a basis for reference to study

the urban and industrial impact, assuming that the tribal society being a traditional oriented one is less susceptible to change and that no significant changes might have occurred during the last fifteen to twenty years. Being one of them I was much interested in the study of Mahadeo Kolis and could study it in more details as I had good access and contacts with the urban Mahadeo Kolis.

The entire study was carried out under the guidance of Dr. M. G. Kulkarni, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona 4. I have no words to express adequately my debt to him for his valuable and inspiring guidance, his fraternal attitude and sympathetic considerations of my difficulties. I really feel that it was a great pleasure for me to make this study under his guidance.

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