

# A Geographical Study of Concentration of Tribal Population and Their Literacy in Akole Tahsil, District Ahmednagar (MS)

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**Abstract:** *There are number of issues related to the tribal society. The tribal people are sandwiched between low level of human resource development and erosion of forest resources on which they are traditionally dependent. Therefore, it is necessary to find out strength and initiatives of these people and provide support for their survival and development. For this it is necessary to carry out detail study of the tribal society and geographical environment of their native villages. The present work attempts to adopt a geographical approach for understanding the land and people literacy in the tribal areas by selecting a tahsil of the district.*

**Keywords:** Tribe, Population, Literacy, Concentration

## 1. Introduction

There are number of issues related to the tribal society. The tribal people are sandwiched between low level of human resource development and erosion of forest resources on which they are traditionally dependent. Therefore, it is necessary to find out strength and initiatives of these people and provide support for their survival and development. For this it is necessary to carry out detail study of the tribal society and geographical environment of their native villages. The present work attempts to adopt a geographical approach for understanding the land and people literacy in the tribal areas by selecting a tahsil of the district.

There are about 47 tribes declared as scheduled tribes in the state of Maharashtra, according to the Gazette notification (1991). In the Ahmednagar district, Akole and Sangamner tahsil have tribal communities' viz. Mahadev Koli, Katkari, Bhill and Thakar. Geographically, this part of the district is the foothill zone of the Western Ghats.

Akole is a Tahsil place in Ahmednagar District. It is surrounded by number of small and big hills and mountains. There are many habitants of this community are found in every small and big villages of Akole Tahsil. This community is educationally, socially, culturally, politically and economically backward.

This community has to face many difficulties and problems in their daily life. Therefore, I would like to study the literacy status of ST community in Akole Tahsil.

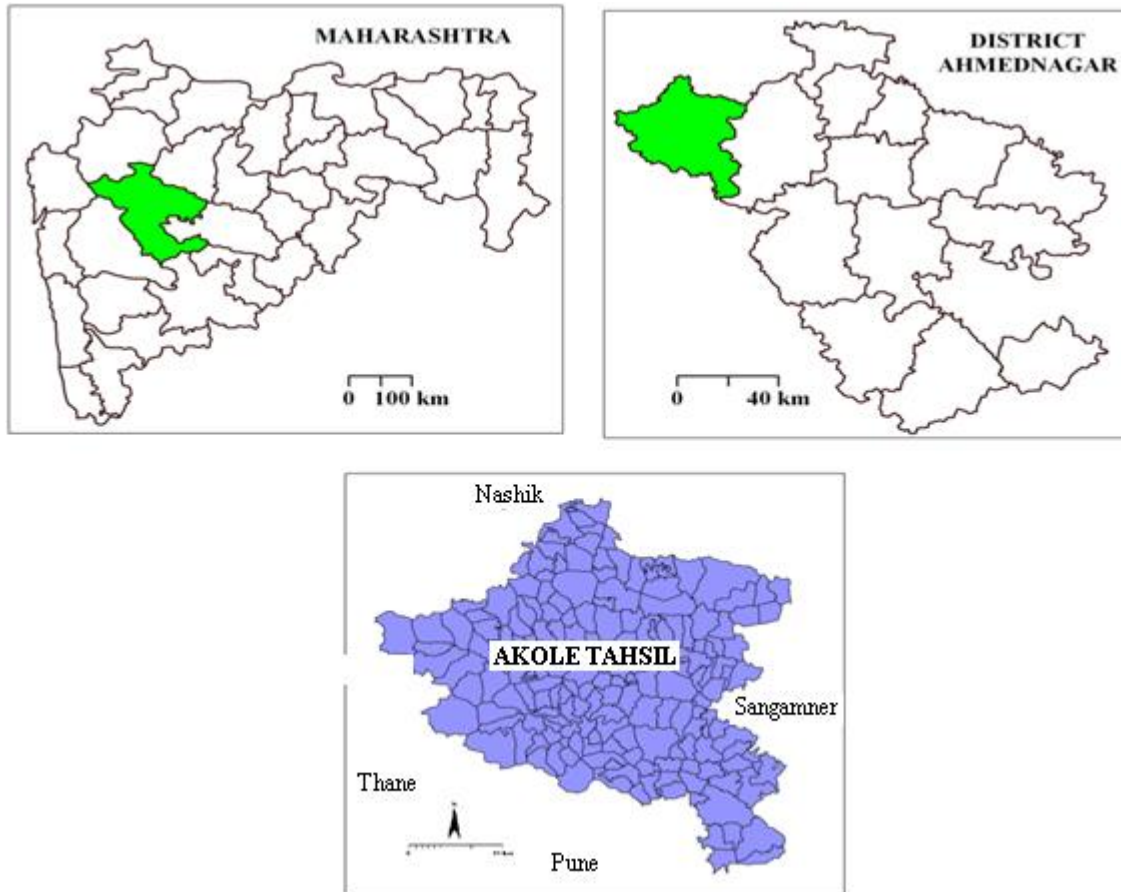
## 2. Objective

- 1) To study the concentration of tribal population in the tahsil
- 2) To study the literacy of the ST population

## 3. Study Area

### LOCATION, SITUATION AND SITE MAP OF STUDY AREA





#### 4. Methodology

The study is mainly based on the secondary sources of data. To study the distribution and concentration of tribals, their decadal growth rate and social condition of tribal, the data were obtained from the 1971 to 2001 Censuses.

The index of concentration of tribal population is also calculated by using the Location quotient method (Mahmood 1977) as given below:

$$L.Q. = \frac{\text{No. of tribal population to total population a village}}{\% \text{ of tribal population to total population a Tahsil}}$$

Where,

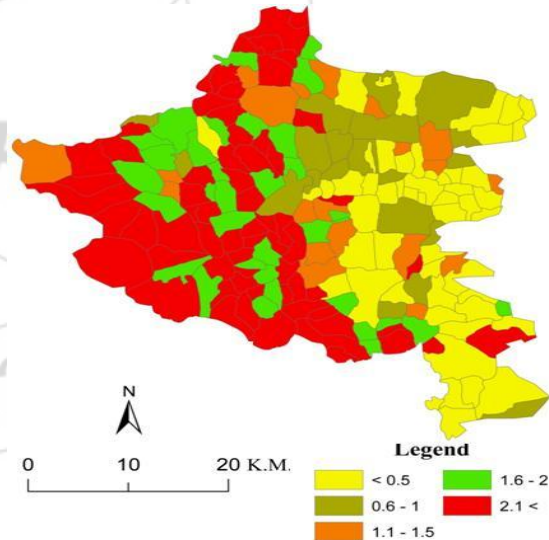
The value of location quotient is above 1, the concentration of tribal population would be high and dispersed in the area where the value is less than 1 and where the value is exactly 1, and then it is balanced one. To know the absolute concentration, the tribal population as percentage of total tribal population is also analyzed.

#### 5. Result and Discussion

##### 5.1 Concentration of Tribal Population

LQ method: The index of concentration of tribal population is also calculated by using the Location Quotient Method (Mahmood 1977) as given below:

$$L.Q. = \frac{\% \text{ of tribal population to total population of village}}{\% \text{ of tribal population to total population of Tahsil}}$$



Akole Tahsil Village wise index (Location Quotient Method) of concentration of tribal population (2001)

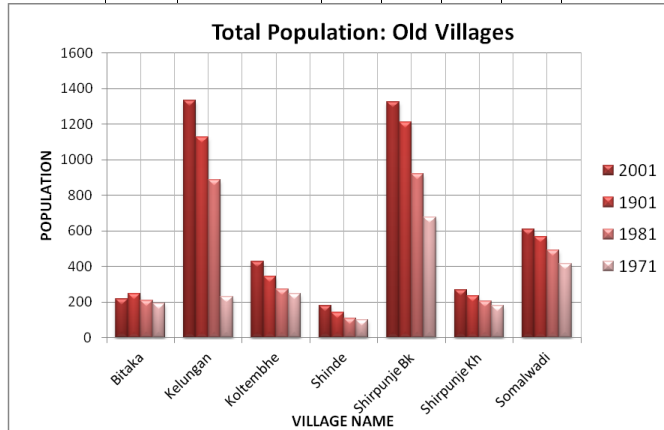
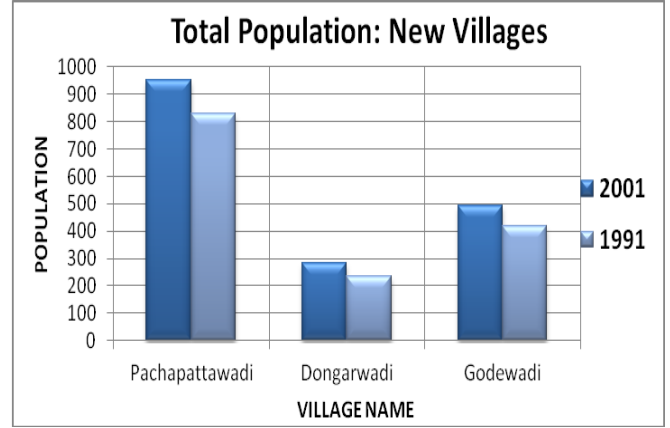
As far as concentration of tribal population is concerned, the index of concentration of tribal population is calculated by using the location quotient method (Mahmood 1977:106). As per the location quotient index, the concentration of tribal population in the Akole Tahsil was very high in 2001 as the value was as high as 2.2. In the Akole Tahsil, Dongarwadi (2.2), Somalwadi (2.2), ShirpunjeBk (2.1), Koltembhe (2.2), Kelungan (2.2), Shinde (2.2), Godewadi (2.2), Pachapattawadi (2.2), ShirpunjeKh (2.2) and Bitaka (2.2) the concentration was high as the index values were above 2. Remaining villages of Akole Tahsil having low location quotient index i.e. Less than 2. Therefore we are

selected above 10 villages for this study.

### 5.2 Population Size of Villages

#### a. Total Population: Old Villages

| Sr. No. | Village Name | Total Population |      |      |      |
|---------|--------------|------------------|------|------|------|
|         |              | 2001             | 1991 | 1981 | 1971 |
| 1       | Bitaka       | 217              | 249  | 208  | 203  |
| 2       | Kelungan     | 1344             | 1137 | 886  | 389  |
| 3       | Koltembhe    | 429              | 345  | 271  | 255  |
| 4       | Shinde       | 181              | 144  | 109  | 102  |
| 5       | ShirpunjeBk  | 1383             | 1279 | 979  | 738  |
| 6       | ShirpunjeKh  | 271              | 236  | 208  | 184  |
| 7       | Somalwadi    | 608              | 637  | 501  | 424  |



### 5.3 Literacy

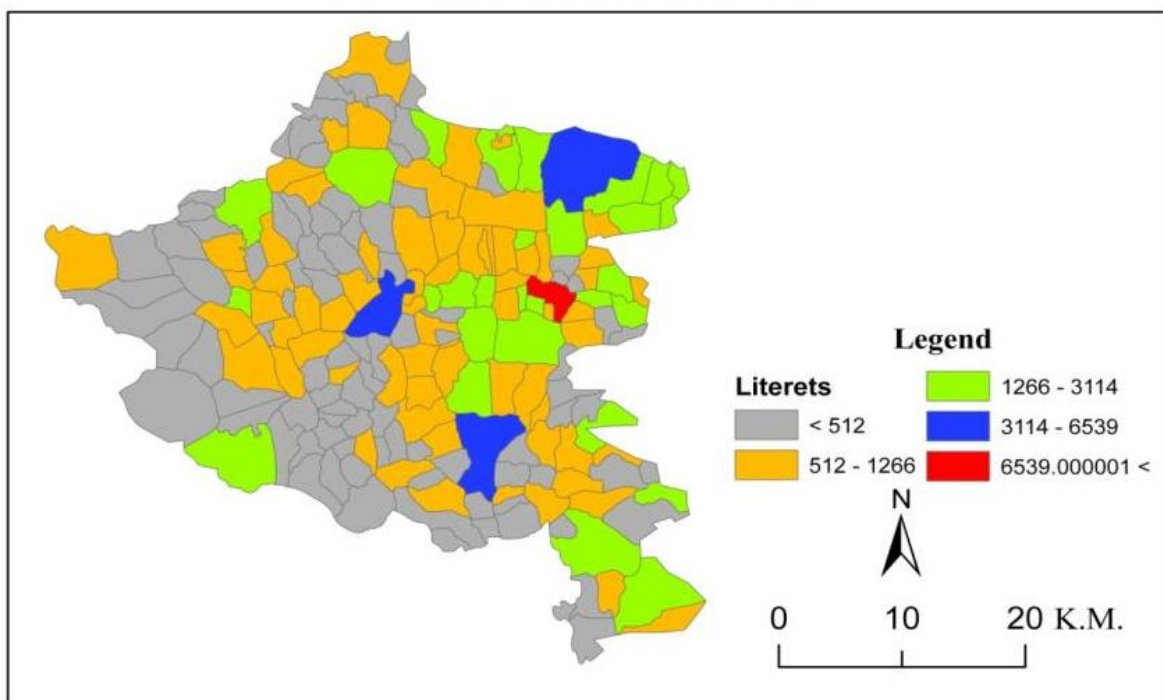
In the following Map; the distribution of population in the Akole tahsil according to the literacy of the villages is worth mentioning. It shows only Akole having high literate population that is 6540. Due to more educational facilities are available as compare to other villages.

Deothan, Rajur and Kotul villages having literate population between 3114 to 6539. But remaining villages in the Akole Tahsil having very low literate population because of very less educational facilities, transport facilities and low per capita income.

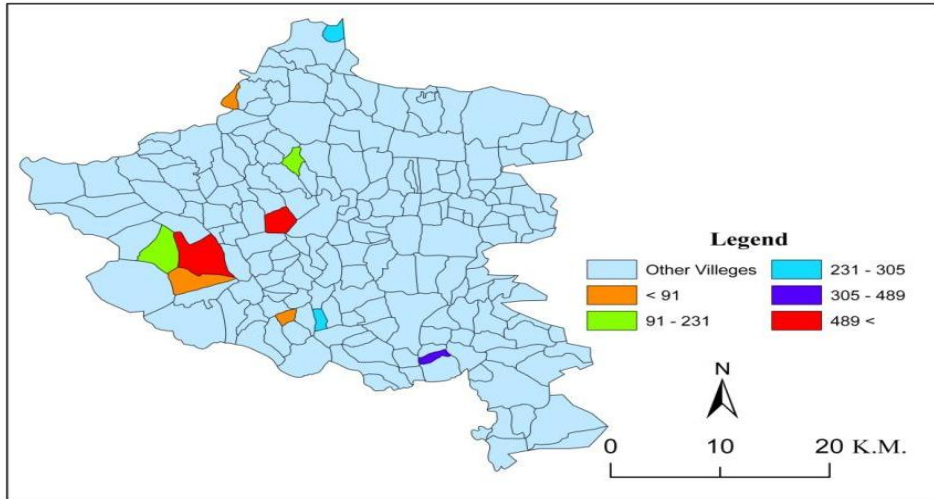
#### b. Total Population: New Villages

| Sr. No. | Village Name   | Total Population |      |
|---------|----------------|------------------|------|
|         |                | 2001             | 1991 |
| 1       | Pachapattawadi | 957              | 837  |
| 2       | Dongarwadi     | 498              | 423  |
| 3       | Godewadi       | 960              | 761  |

### AKOLE TAHSIL LITERATERS OF VILLAGES - 2001



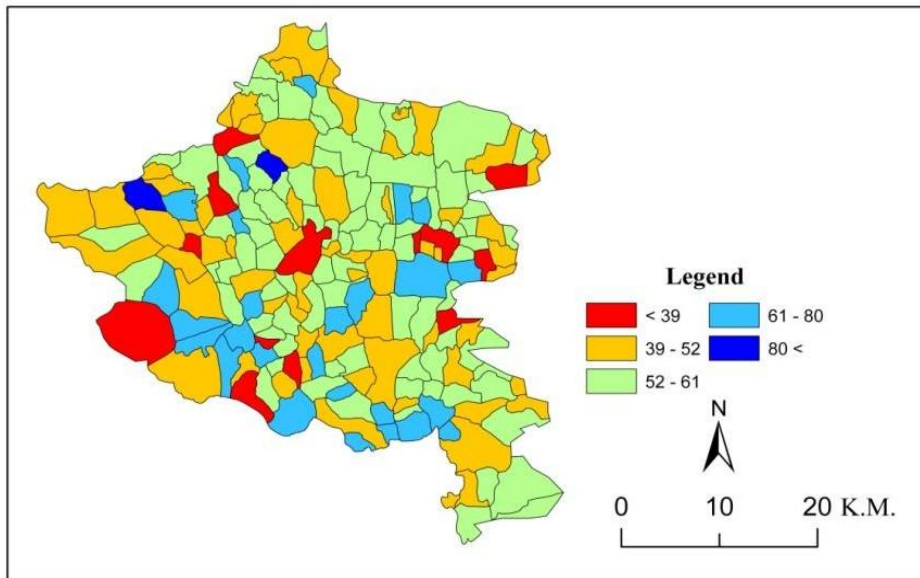
AKOLE TAHSIL  
 LITERATES OF SELECTED 10 VILLAGES



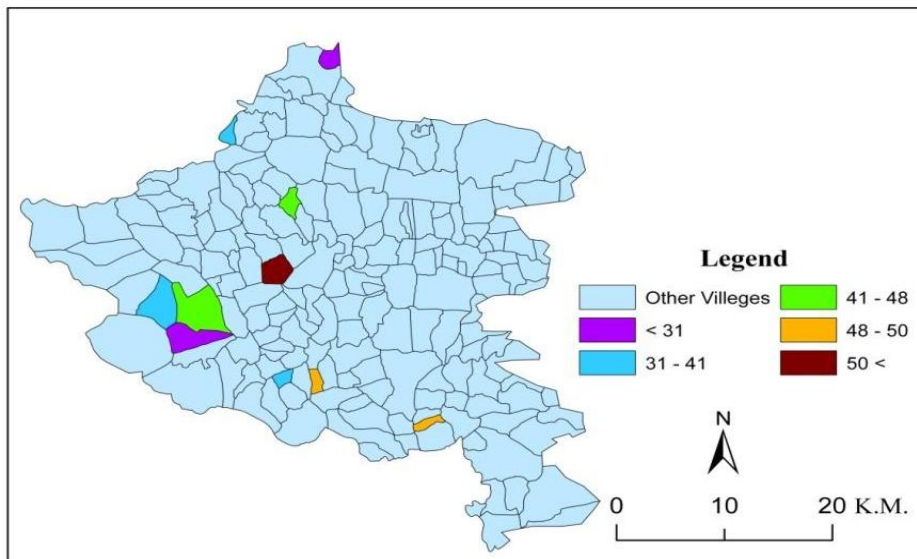
Villagewise Literate Population in Akole Tahsil (2001)

5.4 Percentage of Literacy

AKOLE TAHSIL  
 PERCENTAGE OF LITERATE POPULATION - 2001



AKOLE TAHSIL  
 PERCENTAGE OF LITERATE POPULATION OF SELECTED 10 VILLAGES



The distribution of ST population in the Akole tahsil according to the percentage of the literacy is worth mentioning. It shows only Panjare and Pabhulwandi having high literate population that is above 80%. Due to more educational facilities are available as compare to other villages. 13 villages of Akole Tahsil having less than 39% of literacy because of very less educational facilities, transport facilities and low per capita income.

publishing house, New Delhi.

## 6. Conclusion

After overall study of the Mahadev Koli Community in Akole Tahsil of Ahmednagar District, I come to know the conclusions as follow;

- As per the location quotient index, the concentration of tribal population in the Akole Tahsil was very high in 2001 as the value was as high as 2.2.
- In the Akole Tahsil, Dongarwadi (2.2), Somalwadi (2.2), Shirpunje Bk (2.1), Koltembhe (2.2), Kelungan (2.2), Shinde (2.2), Godewadi (2.2), Pachapattawadi (2.2), ShirpunjeKh (2.2) and Bitaka (2.2) the concentration was high as the index values were above 2. Remaining villages of Akole Tahsil having low location quotient index i.e. Less than 2.
- The distribution of population in the Akole tahsil according to the size of villages is worth mentioning. It shows 4 villages having population size More than 4421. And 32 villages having population size between 2242 to 4421. Thus, there is curvilinear relationship between size of settlement and population. Some of the observations may be noted here to understand the nature of the distribution in both tribal and non-tribal area.
- Deothan, Rajur and Kotul villages having literate population between 3114 to 6539. But remaining villages in the Akole Tahsil having very low literate population because of very less educational facilities, transport facilities and low per capita income.
- The distribution of population in the Akole tahsil according to the percentage of the literacy is worth mentioning. It shows only Panjare and Pabhulwandi having high literate population that is above 80%. Due to more educational facilities are available as compare to other villages. 13 villages of Akole Tahsil having less than 39% of literacy.

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