

A Case Study of House Types in Village Mundhal Khurd

Suman*

Net, M.Phil., Department of Geography

Abstract – House is a social concept: its nature and cognition are varying with caste, class religion and region (Unni, 1965). The word has been used as a synonym for census house, which is defined as, “a building or a part of a building having a separate main entrance from the road or common courtyard or staircase, etc., used or recognized as a separate unit. It may be occupied or vacant. It may be used for a residential or non-residential purpose or both (Census of India, 2001). In a simplistic way, a house is a ‘shelter’ to live in. It is one of the basic human entitlements which connect its occupant with the society. The study is based on primary and secondary data. The primary data has been collected by using well prepared schedules and personal interviews conducted to the head of family. It is concluded that the pacca houses in the village Mundhal Khurd belong to upper castes and other backward castes people who have a good quality and specious houses rather than the low caste people. It is noted that most of pacca houses belong to Punjabi, Khati, Lohar, Jat, Brahman and Nai castes of village and these castes have good socially and economically status. It is observed that the mixed houses are diminishing day to day replacing by the pacca houses due to improvement in economic conditions of inhabitants and availability and suitability of local building material in recent years.

Key Words: Caste, Class Religion, Census House, Shelter, Inhabitants.

-----X-----

INTRODUCTION

In 1946, Finch Trewartha have further explained that “as a geographic element ‘house’ is meant to include not only the residential house, ranging from the humblest huts of a poor to the most elaborate and massive city mansions, but all other human structure as well, where people congregate or where their grains or goods are stored, such as warehouses, stores, schools factories and churches etc.”

In a simplistic way, a house is a ‘shelter’ to live in. It is one of the basic human entitlements which connect its occupant with the society. Brunhes, (1920), advocated as “the houses are the product of cultural traditions and natural conditions”. Dwellings are the universal and basic element of settlement geography. Many geographers have also studied the dwellings in different forms in India as well as abroad. In the classic studies, ‘house and building’ were a part of human geography (Jackson, 1952). But in geographical literature it is the most important component of cultural heritage, cultural style, functional needs, positive and negative aspects of non-cultural environment (Kniffen, 1965).

This study deals with dwelling based on size such as caste-wise number of households and number of rooms, house types building material such as caste-

wise number of households with floor material, wall material, roof material and house types.

DWELLINGS BASED ON SIZE:

The size of rural dwellings denotes the economic level of the people. The six & above room dwellings are fairly distributed in the village with maximum number (37.50 %) of the rural households. Two (40.00 %) out of total 5 dwellings occupy one room houses owned by Heri caste. Six (40.00 %) out of total 15 dwellings occupy one room houses owned by Dhanak caste. About 43.76 per cent dwellings occupy two or three rooms and most of the people of this category belong to economically poor and slightly well caste like Chamar (73.34 %), Chura (72.50 %), Punjabi (60.00 %) and Manihar (60.00). About 34.69 per cent dwellings occupy four or five rooms belong to Kumhar (80 %), Brahman (60.00 %) and Jat (56.25 %). It is recorded that most of six and more room dwellings belongs to Jat (32.50 %), Lohar (40.00) and Maniyar (20.00 %) of the total dwellings of this particular category in the village. It is shown by [Table-1.1].

MATERIALS FOR FLOORS:

As reveal from the [Table-1.2] that the floors of most of the houses of the village are made of

cement and brunt bricks. Jat, Brahman, Lohar, Chippi, Khati, Kumhar, Jhimar, Dhanak, Nai, Chamar, Balmiki, Heri are the castes of the village which most of the house are made of brunt bricks, cement, tiles/stones, marble etc. because of good economic conditions of houses and share of percentage in it. 100 per cent of the total houses belong to Brahman, Punjabi, Khati, Chippi, Kumhar and Heri, 97.50 per cent to jat, 80.00 per cent to Nai, 70.00 per cent Jhimar, 66.67 per cent to Chamar, 60.00 per cent to Dhanak and Manihar, 57.50 per cent to Balmiki and relatively a smaller percentage of houses of these castes are built up of mud in which 42.50 per cent to Balmiki, 40.00 per cent to Dhanak, 33.33 per cent to Chamar, 30.00 per cent to Jhimar, 20.00 per cent to Nai and only 02.50 per cent to house floors to Jat.

MATERIALS FOR WALLS:

The walls of the houses in the village are built of brunt bricks with mud and cement. Out of total households, 73.44 % household's wall made of brunt bricks with mud and 26.56 % household's wall made of brunt bricks with cement. In General Castes 60.87 % household's wall made of brunt bricks with mud and 39.13 % household's wall made of brunt bricks with cement. In Other Backward Castes 66.67 % household's walls made of brunt bricks with mud and 33.33 % wall made of brunt bricks with cement. In Scheduled Castes 86.67 % households walls made of brunt bricks with mud and 8.70 % households walls made in brunt bricks with cement. In village Mundhal Khurd 73.44 % household's walls made of brunt bricks with mud and 26.56 % households walls made of brunt bricks with cement [Table no.1.3].

Table No. 1.1: Village Mundhal Khurd: Caste-Wise Households and Number of Room, 2015

Name of Caste/ Varna	No. of house holds	One Room	In %	Two Rooms	In %	Three Rooms	In %	Four Rooms	In %	Five Rooms	In %	Six & Above Rooms	In %
(A) General Population													
Jat	80	2	02.50	0	00.00	7	08.75	25	31.25	20	25.00	26	32.50
Brahman	30	1	03.33	4	13.33	4	13.33	10	33.33	8	26.67	3	10.00
Punjabi	5	0	00.00	2	40.00	1	20.00	2	40.00	0	00.00	0	00.00
Total	115	3	02.61	6	05.22	12	10.43	37	32.17	28	24.35	29	25.22
(B) Other Backward Castes Population (OBC)													
Khati	25	2	08.00	4	16.00	4	16.00	7	28.00	5	20.00	3	12.00
Chippi	15	3	20.00	2	13.33	5	33.33	1	06.67	2	13.33	2	13.33
Nai	10	3	30.00	1	10.00	3	30.00	1	10.00	2	20.00	0	00.00
Jhimar	10	2	20.00	8	80.00	0	00.00	0	00.00	0	00.00	0	00.00
Kumhar	10	1	10.00	0	00.00	1	10.00	4	40.00	4	40.00	0	00.00
Lohar	10	1	10.00	1	10.00	3	30.00	1	10.00	0	00.00	4	40.00
Manihar	5	1	20.00	2	40.00	1	20.00	0	00.00	0	00.00	1	20.00
Heri	5	2	40.00	2	40.00	0	00.00	1	20.00	0	00.00	0	00.00
Total	90	15	16.67	20	22.22	17	18.89	15	16.67	13	14.44	10	11.11
(C) Scheduled Castes Population (SC)													
Chamar	60	9	15.00	22	36.67	22	36.67	3	05.00	1	01.67	3	05.00
Balmiki	40	6	15.00	20	50.00	9	22.50	2	05.00	1	02.50	2	05.00
Dhanak	15	6	40.00	4	26.67	3	20.00	2	13.33	0	00.00	0	00.00
Total	115	21	18.26	46	40.00	34	29.57	7	06.09	2	01.74	5	04.35
Total Village	320	40	12.50	74	23.13	66	20.63	63	19.69	48	15.00	120	37.50

Source : Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.

Table- 1.2: Village Mundhal Khurd: Caste –Wise No. of Households with Floor Material

Name of Caste / Varna	No. of House Holds	No. of Houses With Floor Materials									
		Mud	In %	Burnt Bricks	In %	Cement	In %	Tiles/ Stones	In %	Marble	In %
(A) General Population											
Jat	80	2	02.50	2	02.50	47	58.75	3	03.75	26	32.50
Brahman	30	0	00.00	1	03.33	21	70.00	1	03.33	7	23.33
Punjabi	5	0	00.00	0	00.00	1	20.00	0	00.00	4	80.00
Total	115	2	01.74	3	02.61	69	60.00	4	03.48	37	32.17
(B) Other Backward Castes Population (OBC)											
Khati	25	0	00.00	1	04.00	13	52.00	1	04.00	10	40.00
Chippi	15	0	00.00	6	40.00	8	53.33	0	00.00	1	06.67
Nai	10	2	20.00	2	20.00	5	50.00	1	10.00	0	00.00
Jhimar	10	3	30.00	2	20.00	5	50.00	0	00.00	0	00.00
Kumhar	10	0	00.00	4	40.00	5	50.00	0	00.00	1	10.00
Lohar	10	0	00.00	0	00.00	10	100.0	0	00.00	0	00.00
Manihar	5	3	60.00	1	20.00	0	00.00	1	20.00	0	00.00
Heri	5	0	00.00	0	00.00	2	40.00	3	60.00	0	00.00
Total	90	8	08.89	16	17.78	48	53.33	6	06.67	12	13.33
(C) Scheduled Castes Population (SC)											
Chamar	60	20	33.33	9	15.00	29	48.33	2	03.33	0	00.00
Balimiki	40	17	42.50	2	05.00	19	47.50	0	00.00	2	05.00
Dhanak	15	6	40.00	0	00.00	8	53.33	1	06.67	0	00.00
Total	115	43	37.39	11	09.57	56	48.70	3	02.61	2	01.74
Total Village	320	53	16.56	30	09.38	173	54.06	13	04.06	51	15.94
Source: Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.											

Source: Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.

Table No. 1.3 Village Mundhal Khurd: Caste-Wise No. of Households with Wall Material, 2015

Name of Caste/ Varna	No. of Houses	No. of Houses With Wall Materials					
		Brunt Bricks with Mud	In %	Brunt Bricks with Cement	In %	Brunt Bricks	In %
(A) General Population							
Jat	80	50	62.50	30	37.50	80	100.0
Brahman	30	18	60.00	12	40.00	30	100.0
Panjabi	5	2	40.00	3	60.00	5	100.0
Total	115	70	60.87	45	39.13	115	100.0
(B) Other Backward Castes Population (OBC)							
Khati	25	18	72.00	7	28.00	25	100.0
Chippi	15	9	60.00	6	40.00	15	100.0
Nai	10	7	70.00	3	30.00	10	100.0
Jhimar	10	7	70.00	3	30.00	10	100.0
Kumhar	10	6	60.00	4	40.00	10	100.0
Lohar	10	6	60.00	4	40.00	10	100.0
Manihar	5	3	60.00	2	40.00	5	100.0
Heri	5	4	80.00	1	20.00	5	100.0
Total	90	60	66.67	30	33.33	90	100.0
(C) Scheduled Castes Population (SC)							
Chamar	60	57	95.00	3	05.00	60	100.0
Balimiki	40	35	87.50	5	12.50	40	100.0
Dhanak	15	13	86.50	2	13.33	15	100.0
Total	115	105	86.67	10	08.70	115	100.0
T. Village	320	235	73.44	85	26.56	320	100.0
Source Field Survey, Compiled By Author, 2015.							

Source Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.

Table No. 1.4: Village Mundhal Khurd: Caste-Wise No. of Households with Roof Material 2015

Name of Caste/Varna	No. of House Holds	No. of Houses With Roof Materials					
		Wood timber	In %	Concretes/ Cement	In %	Stones	In %
(A) General Population							
Jat	80	32	40.00	16	20.00	32	40.00
Brahman	30	15	50.00	7	23.33	8	26.67
Punjabi	5	1	20.00	1	20.00	3	60.00
Total	115	48	41.74	24	20.87	43	37.39
(B) Other Backward Castes Population (OBC)							
Khathi	25	7	28.00	10	40.00	8	32.00
Chippi	15	12	80.00	1	6.67	2	13.33
Nai	10	5	50.00	1	10.00	4	40.00
Jhimar	10	8	80.00	0	0.00	2	20.00
Kumhar	10	6	60.00	0	00.00	4	40.00
Lohar	10	3	30.00	7	70.00	0	00.00
Manihar	5	4	80.00	1	20.00	0	00.00
Heri	5	3	60.00	0	00.00	2	40.00
Total	90	48	53.33	20	22.22	22	24.44
(C) Scheduled Castes Population (SC)							
Chamar	60	56	93.33	0	00.00	4	6.67
Balimiki	40	36	90.00	1	2.50	3	7.50
Dhanak	15	13	86.67	0	00.00	2	13.33
Total	115	105	91.30	1	00.87	9	37.39
T. Village	320	201	62.81	45	14.06	74	23.13
Source Field Survv. Compiled By Author, 2015.							

Source Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.

MATERIAL FOR ROOFS:

The roofs of houses of castes are 93.33 percent to Chamar, 90.00 per cent to Balmiki, 86.67 per cent to Dhanak, 80.00 per cent to Chippi, Jhimar, Manihar, 60.00 per cent to Kumhar, Heri, 50.00 per cent to Brahman and Nai respectively are made of wood timber. These castes have used very small share of roofs materials like cement/concretes and stones. The roofs of 37.39 % houses belong to general population like Jat (40.00 %), Brahman (26.67 %) and Punjabi (60.00 %), while 24.44 % and 23.13 % houses of other backward castes and scheduled castes are made of cement/concretes and stones in the village [Table-1.4].

HOUSE TYPES BASED ON BUILDING MATERIALS:

The environment and economic conditions of the people are, reflected in the use of building materials (Singh, 1985). Generally, the houses in a rural set up are built by using materials available locally. However, if the owner of houses can afford to bring materials from other areas, by bearing the cost of transportation and materials, he may construct his house of choice, not restricted to locally available material.

In the study area, the building materials of houses in the village are classified into three groups. These are follows:

Table No. 1.5: Mundhal Khurd: House Types Based on Building Materials, 2015

Building Materials	Floors	In %	Walls	In %	Roofs	In %
Bricks with Mud	53	16.56	235	73.44	0	00.00
Bricks with Cement	30	09.38	85	26.56	0	00.00
Cement & Concretes	173	54.06	0	00.00	45	14.06
Wood Timber	0	00.00	0	00.00	201	62.81
Stones/Tiles	13	04.06	0	00.00	74	23.13
Marble	51	15.94	0	00.00	0	00.00
Total	320	100%	320	100%	320	100%

Source: Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.

[Table-1.5] shows that the floor of most the house in the village is built of cement (54.06 %) and mud (16.56 %) and relatively 15.94 %, 09.39 % and 04.06 % are floor are made of marble, bricks and tiles. The wall of the houses (73.44 %) is made of bricks/mud and 26.56 % houses are made of bricks/cement. It is observed that the roof of most of the houses (62.81 %) are built of wood timber and relatively 23.13 % houses are made of stones/tiles and 14.06 % of cement/concretes.

CASTE-WISE HOUSES TYPES ON BUILDING MATERIAL

On the bases of building materials, **two types of houses** have been identified in the village Mundhal Khurd. These are following: - [Fig.-1.6]

- (i) **Pacca House:** (Floor with brunt bricks, cement, tiles/stones and marble, wall with brunt bricks/cement and roof with concrete/cement and stones),
- (ii) **Mixed House:** (Floor with mud, wall made of brunt bricks with mud and roof with wood timber).

(I) Pacca House:

The pacca houses are occupied by socially and economically rich people in the village. 119 houses (37.19 %) of the total houses are pacca and are made of floor with brunt bricks, cement, tiles/stones and marble, walls with brunt bricks/cement, and roofs with concrete/cement and stones. About 58.26 % households belong to general population like Jat, Brahmin and Punjabi have pacca type houses, while other backward castes population like Khathi, Chippi, Nai, Jhimar, Kumhar, Lohar, Manihar and Heri (obc castes, 46.67%), and Chamar, Balmiki and Dhanak (scheduled castes, 08.70 %) have very low share of percentage of pacca houses [Table-1.6].

(II) Mixed House:

Mixed house are occupied by people of middle class of the village. The 201 (62.81 %) houses of the village are made of mud floors, wood timber

roofs with mud/brunt bricks walls. The 93.33 % houses belong to Chamar, 90.00 % to Balmiki, 86.67 % to Dhanak, 80.00 % to Chippi, Jhimar and Manihar, 60.00 % to Kumhar and Heri, 50.00 % to Brahmin and Nai castes have mixed type of houses.

CONCLUSION:

It is concluded that the pacca houses in the village belong to upper castes and other backward castes people who have a good quality and specious houses rather than the low caste people. It is noted that most of pacca houses belong to Punjabi, Khati, Lohar, Jat, Brahman and Nai castes of village and these castes have good socially and economically status. It is observed that the mixed houses are diminishing day to day replacing by the pacca houses due to improvement in economic conditions of inhabitants and availability and suitability of local building material in recent years.

Table No. 1.6: Mundhal Khurd: Caste-Wise House Types, 2015.

Name of Caste/ Varna	No. House-holds	Number of Houses			
		Pacca House	In Per Cent	Mixed House	In Per Cent
(A) General Population					
Jat	80	48	60.00	32	40.00
Brahmin	30	15	50.00	15	50.00
Punjabi	5	4	80.00	1	20.00
Total	115	67	58.26	48	41.74
(B)Other Backward Castes Population (OBC)					
Khati	25	18	72.00	7	28.00
Chippi	15	3	20.00	12	80.00
Nai	10	5	50.00	5	50.00
Jhimar	10	2	20.00	8	80.00
Kumhar	10	4	40.00	6	60.00
Lohar	10	7	70.00	3	30.00
Manihar	5	1	20.00	4	80.00
Heri	5	2	40.00	3	60.00
Total	90	42	46.67	48	53.33
(C) Scheduled Castes Population (SC)					
Chamar	60	4	06.67	56	93.33
Balmiki	40	4	10.00	36	90.00
Dhanak	15	2	13.33	13	86.67
Total	115	10	08.70	105	91.30
Total Village	320	119	37.19	201	62.81
Source: Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.					

Source: Field Survey. Compiled By Author, 2015.

REFERENCES:

- Brunches, J. (1920): **Human Geography**, Chicago; Rand Mc Nalley.
- Census of India (2001): **District Census Handbook**, Jind District, Series-8, Haryana
- Jackson, J.B. (1952): '**Human, All too Human Geography**', Landscape, Vol. 2, pp. 2-7.
- Kniffen, F. (1965): 'Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion', **AAAG**, Vol. 55, p. 549.

Unni, K.R. (1965): **Social Factors in Housing in the Rural Habitat**, (Eds) David Oakley, et.al, New Delhi.

Corresponding Author

Suman*

Net, M.Phil., Department of Geography

sumanchamar200.sc@gmail.com