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## **MIGRATION, SLUMS AND URBAN SQUALOR – A CASE STUDY OF GANDHINAGAR SLUM**

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### ***Abstract***

*Slums are a worldwide phenomenon which tends to deteriorate the urban environment. They are the shadow zones of urban existence where poverty, crime, aesthetic pollution apart from other type's pollution, disease and deprivation co-exist. Physically they display a dense packing of houses and a further dense clustering of pollution within the houses. This in turn is associated with various physical and social problems. Migration from different parts of the area to slums makes the condition still unfavorable for survival. The main objectives are to study the migrational aspect of **Gandhinagar slum** which has been used as a case study to study the inter and intra migration and also the socio-economic strata of these slum dwellers of Gandhinagar slum which is located in south Hyderabad.*

*Various cartographic tools and tables were used for this study. The general conclusion drawn is that most of the slum dwellers have migrated from the southern part of the city and are here for generations. They have all public amenities except for a public library. The socio-economic conditions of people are not good as is testified by their income and expenditure pattern. Houses here are well built concrete structures. Their means of transport however are modest in keeping with their overall condition. Other aspects of these slums are shown through diagrams and maps.*

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Slums are an essential urban phenomenon worldwide and are strung at the lowest rung of the socio-economic array. They are the shadow zones of urban existence where poverty, crime, aesthetic pollution apart from other types of pollutions, disease and deprivation co-exist. Nevertheless they provide the essential labor-force to work in the industrial and commercial sectors of the cities, not to speak of the service sector which can also be stretched over to cover domestic help in a big way. Physically, they display a dense packing of houses and a further dense clustering of population within the houses. This in turn, is associated with various physical and social problems. The physical problems manifest themselves in the form of open drains, disorganized layout of structures and roads and apathy in the disposal of garbage. Social or human problems

include lack of privacy, imminent conflicts which are bound to arise when people are in close proximity, almost impinging on the space of each other and a related sense of insecurity. The occasional brawls that take place may lead to Law and Order problems at times. The vulnerability of slum population to indulge in petty crimes and take umbrage in the 'politically secure' environment can also not be ruled out and the dense, impenetrable population clusters of almost homogenous groups provide an ideal set-up for this. On the economic front, the slum population is apparently the most marginalized. Some of them survive on a shoe-string budget or even a hand to mouth existence, though cases of relative opulence hidden in an ocean of poverty cannot be ruled out. However, generally the slum population is below the poverty line.

The concept of a slum is an evaluative one rather than an analytical one and hence what is considered a slum in one cultural setting is an adequate housing facility in another. A slum can be conceptualized on the bases of:

1. Physical conditions of the area's individual housing conditions, crowding, sanitary conditions and lack of access to facilities which make possible the physical and mental well-being of the residence of the area.
2. Lack of effective social organization and
3. The social image of the area held lay the community at large as the slum-dwellers (solzbacher R.M). Based on these criteria, the definition of slum may vary from one cultural setting to another.

Hyderabad the capital of A.P is the sixth largest city in India. The latest population figures in year 2001 was 12, 59,843 which is a very high figure. In 1901, the municipal limits of Hyderabad- Secunderabad covered 5% of the city area which was under slums and contained 17% of the urban population which was about 1.9 lakhs in 1957. In 1964 there were 94 slums and a study by the Council for Social Development in 1976 reported 237 slums with a population of over 300,000. After that a survey conducted by the Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad claimed that there were nearly 0.17 million households that was a slum population of over 900,000 in 730 slums. In other words the city has grown 227% in 30years or 7.5% annually.

The reason behind this could be several but the most important aspect that can be identified here is migration. People in search of employment flock to the city in huge numbers. They try to accommodate themselves in the given area and hence the number of people keeps increasing and the space remains the same, resulting in over-crowding of any slum. This over-crowding makes the slum condition deteriorate. Already the area is deprived of all kinds of amenities, and this extra population make the standard of living still lower and inimicable for human survival.

The population which flows to Hyderabad is mostly from Telangana, the reason is because of its nearness. Migration from other parts of the state/country also occur but when compared with that of Telangana it is negligible. Once they occupy the slum then the real problem commences. Over-crowding itself is the significant one that leads to other problems like sanitation, food and nutrition, garbage, pollution etc... The slum dwellers have certain common habits of 1.chewing paan, 2. Tobacco chewing. 3.

Smoking, 4. Drinking liquor, 5. Matka(gambling),etc...(slum clearance and Improvement, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi). It does not mean that these habits are not found in the rest of the community but most of the families living in the slum areas are addicted to these habits which not only affect their health but also families and ultimately the environment. Drinking liquor and smoking are the most common habits of slum dwellers. Most of the habits are formed between ten to twenty years. This probably confirms the view that most of the habits are formed during the adolescent period. Slum dwellers in Hydria have a lack of proper community and household facilities. Washing cloths and vessels in open places, unhygienic conditions because of non- availability of pure water, going for toilets in an open place, lack of cooking gas etc make the surroundings totally unsuitable for living.

Migration not only involves these environmental, socio-economic and other problems but it is also largely responsible for urban crime which is again a facet of the urban microenvironment. Thus a value system consequent on congestion and penury is a characteristic of slums. Migration is the key process by which people belonging to certain socio-economic backgrounds move to cities and find their way into slums. Members of all castes have migrated from different districts within the state of A.P. Three patterns of movements of people within the state are discerned: 1. Majority of them have migrated from different places within Telangana (50%). 2. There are a few who have migrated from districts in the state of A.P other than those within Telangana (30%). 3. A small proportions have migrated from outside the state (20%).

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To study the migrational aspect of Gandhinagar slum located in south Hyderabad.
2. To study the inter and intra migration of people.
3. To study the socio-economic strata of these slum dwellers.

**FINDINGS:**

Following is a case study of a selected slum, Gandhinagar, of south Hyderabad, which was picked up at random. A structured questionnaire was administered to 5% of the residents of the slum and the results are put fourth in this paper.

**GANDHINAGAR SLUM** 18<sup>th</sup> ward /Block 14, Tables source: Survey conducted in June 2001.

**Table no: 1. Reasons for migration to Hyderabad(2001)**

S.no	Reasons	Percentage
1	Job	81.8
2	Relatives	77.27

The figures in table no.1 indicate that most of the people have migrated to Hyderabad in search of employment i.e. an economic factor. Hyderabad has been the greatest puller because of it's heterogeneous nature in terms of jobs and services. Other people were influenced by their kin folk who were already dwelling here; they were support for the new migrants.

**Table no.2 Reasons for migration to the slum (2001)**

S.no.	Reason	Percentage
	Job	4.54
2	Relatives	31.8
3	Cheap House	54.54
4	Near to work place	9.09

The majority of migrants have come to this particular slum area because of cheap accommodation as they cannot afford higher accommodation costs. This factor compelled them to stay in Gandhinagar itself and not move into

other slums. A majority of them were influenced by their relatives who were already there. It is also found that people stay there because of availability of jobs and nearness to work place.

**Table no.3 Duration of stay in Hyderabad**

S.no	Years	Percentage
	10-20	13.63
2	20-30	4.54
3	30-40	13.63
4	above 40	68.18

The above table shows that 68.18% people are staying there from generations together. That means new migrants are less in number, their settlement here from such a long duration tells about the sustainability of the job that they have been performing in Hyderabad.

However there is a continuous migration to Hyderabad and it has taken place at all time periods.

**Table no:4 Income per month**

S.no	Income per month	Percentage
1	Less than 1000	22.72
2	1000-3000	22.72
3	3000-6000	27.27
4	600-900	13.63
5	Above 9000	13.63

The income pattern suggests that 22.72% people fall in < 1000 income group whereas 13.63% fall in more than Rs.9000 per month. This great variation exists because of the nature of the jobs the residents perform. By this we can conclude that these people are leading a

simple life with some amenities.

**Table no.5 Expense on food per month**

S.no	Expenses in rupees	Percentage
1	1000-2000	27.27
2	2000-3000	50
3	3000-4000	13.63
4	4000-5000	9.09

The above mentioned table explains the expense pattern of the residents of the slum. Since food is the basic need of human beings much of the income is spent on food - 9.09 percent of people spent 4000 to 5000 rupees per month.

50% of people are spending 2000-3000 to meet their food expense, which is a considerable amount.

**Table no.6 Rent per month(2001)**

Own house	Rented	Percentage
17	-	77.27
-	5	22.72

Number of people who are living on rent can be detected from table no.6 whereas table no.6.1 tells us the amount they pay for the rent per month. Most of them have their own

homes with community facilities  
 Table no.6.1 only 22.72 percent are living on rent.

S.no	Rent in rupees	Percentage
1	100-400	9.09
2	400-800	13.63

Table no.7 Clothing expense per month(2001)

S.no	Expense in rupees	Percentage
1	>1000	4.54
2	1000-2000	31.8
3	2000-3000	13.6
4	Above 3000	50

Clothing expenses of people differs from house to house depending upon the family size. 50% of them spend more than 300rs on cloths and 4.54% of them less than rs1000 per month.

Table no.8 Expense on Medicine per month (2001)

S.no	Expense in rupees	Percentage
1	>100	4.54
2	100-500	45.45
3	500-1000	27.27
4	Above 1000	22.72

It can be clearly seen in table no.8 that every household is requiring medicine. People who are spending more than 1000 Rs. on medical expenses may have minor diseases.

Table no.9 Expense on alcohol per month (2001)

Consumers	Non consumers
62%	38%

Table no.9.1

S.no	Expenses in rupees	Percentage
1	>100	9.09
2	100-200	9.09
3	200-300	22.72
4	Above 300	13.63

Table no.9 clearly defines the number of people taking alcohol and also those who do not. It was found that 13.63% of people spend more than 300 rupees on alcohol and 9.09% spend less than100.

Table no.10 Expense on education per month(2001)

S.no	Persons	Percentage
1	Educated	95.45
2	Uneducated	4.54

Table no.10 indicates the number of persons who are educated and also number of persons who are uneducated. The expense, which goes for educational purpose, is varying. Except for one person, all are educated and 50% of them are spending a good amount of their income on education. This

are spending  
 Table no 10.1  
 can be

S.no	Expense in rupees	Percentage
1	1-5	4.54
2	5-10	40.90
3	10-15	50

proved by table no.10.1.

Table no.11 **People having loans (2001)** The table no11 shows that the number of persons

S.no	People	Percentage
1	having Loans	36.36
2	Not having Loans	63.63

who have taken loans is less than that who has not taken loans. In table no. 11.1 the source of loans is mostly local lenders. Banks also have helped them but the dominant source is the local lender who puts

high interest on the actual amount to meet the requirements. People are compelled to take loans and in many cases they are unable to return the amount in time

Table no.11.1

S.no	Loans in rupees	Percentage
1	1000-3000	9.09
2	3000-6000	9.09
3	6000-9000	45.45
4	Above 9000	13.63

Table no.12 **Land in city (2001)** meager

Both the tables's no 12 & 13 illustrate that only

S.no	Land in city	Percentage
1	Have	4.54
2	Do not have	95.45

Percent of these slum dwellers is having lands either in city or in village. That shows that their property structure is not very high. Most of them do not have any property as such apart from their house in this

slum.

Table no.13 **Land in village(2001)**

S.no	Land in village	Percentage
1	Have	9.09
2	Do not have	90.90

Table no.14 **Have Cattle (2001)** The above table no.14 suggests that apart from one house-

S.no	Cattle	Percentage
1	Have	4.54
2	Do not have	95.45

hold, none have cattle. While cattle are usually kept by milk vendors in cities, absence of cattle/poultry in the village and slum environment speaks of either their

poverty or the ease of availability of poultry products nearer the home. Of the two conditions the former seems to be closer to reality.

Table no.15 **Type of house(2001)**

S.no	Type of house	Percentage
1	Kutchra	81.18
2	Pucca	18.82

From the tables 15,16,17,18 it can be seen that the houses built in this area are pucca type, however kutchra also are existing at few places. The roof material, which

Is dominating is asbestos. The people who can afford

concrete floor are at 31.91%. Wall material is

cement in

Table no 16 **Roof material(2001)**

cement

many houses, mud has also been used instead of

S.no	Roof material	Percentage
1	Concrete	31.81
2	Thatch	4.54
3	Asbestos	63.63

  

S.no	Amenities	Percentage
1	Fan	100
2	Color Television	86.36
3	Cooler	9.09
4	Others	13.63

in many instances. One finds the floor material to be

stone in all the houses except for one house .

The general conclusion drawn is that house condition of this particular slum is not bad rather they have good, concrete structures.

Table no 17 **Wall Material (2001)**

S.no	Wall material	Percentage
1	Cement/Bricks	72.73
2	Mud	27.27

Table no.18 **Floor material (2001)**

Table no 19 **Facilities in House (2001)**

S.no	Facilities	Percentage
1	Tap water	100
2	Independent toilet	100
3	Electricity	100

  

S.no	Floor material	Percentage
1	Stone	95.45
2	Mud	4.54

The above tables 19,20 & 21 indicate that all the residents have the required facilities to the fullest extent. All houses have water and electricity. Community facilities are well provided to this area. All of them have fans, 86.36% enjoys T.V, 9.09% have coolers and other amenities like fridge, mixer etc. By and large people here do have a minimum

level of living with some facilities. Drainage, water supply and street lighting are enjoyed by all the

Table no 20 **Amenities in house (2001)**

houses which is a good indicator of the development of Gandhinagar slum.

Table no.21 **Happy with facilities (2001)**

S.no	Happy with	Percentage
1	Drainage	100
2	Water supply	100
3	Street lighting	100

Table no.22 **Problem in locality (2001)**

S.NO	Problem	Percentage
1	Yes	40.90
2	No	59.09

Although this slum consists of all facilities, still

some of them have a common complaint - lack of library. Except for this, everything is available to them. Some elders and youngsters find it difficult to get access to the few books which are in the market. So if this service is provided there would not be any problem in this slum.

Table no.23 **Out door recreation**

S.No	Out door recreation	Percentage
1	Yes	95.45
2	No	4.54

A maximum percentage of people go for outdoor recreation. The main source of transport to go out is buses which are provided by the Government.

Mostly people visit a religious place called Yadgirigutta. Besides this, a considerable number of people go for movies in nearby areas. This clearly tells us that these slum dwellers take a keen interest in going out.

Table no.24 **Relatives in Hyderabad(2001)**

S.NO	Relatives in Hyderabad	Percentage
1	Have	72.72
2	Do not have	27.27

The table tells us that many people visit their relatives frequently. Many of the families have relatives in different parts

parts of the city and some in the same slum itself. The frequency at which they visit their relatives is once per month. 27.27% of people do not have relatives at all. People also go to their relative's house at times of festival and at other functions.

Table no.25 **Transport(2001)**



S.no	Mode of transport	Percentage
1	Walk	36.36
2	Moped	4.55
3	Bus	54.55
4	Cycle	9.09

The mode of transport shows that most of the slum dwellers are dependant on road transport corporation (R.T.C) buses because they are cheaper than any other mode of transport. Persons who are working in nearby areas go to their work place by walking. 9.09% of workers use cycle whereas only 4.55% of them have a moped.

Table no.26 **Relation ship between educational & income 2001**  
**Source: Survey conducted in june 2001**

S.no	Measure	Value
1	rs	.56
2	r	.81
3	r	.64

When the income and education level were compared it was found that both are highly co-related. As education increases, income also increases and vice-versa. People who were having more income were more educated than others.

A value of .64 for the coefficient of Determination between income and education speaks of the high level of explicability of variation in income by variations in education. In other words the two variables are inextricably correlated.

### **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

The foregoing analysis suggests that the residential pattern in the slum is such that most of the slum dwellers of Gandhinagar have been there for generations. Being as it is in the southern part of the city, in a zone marked by low social rank and low family status; it does not seem to attract any of the very recent migrants. Most of the migrants who came during the earlier periods also are from the bcal area, the immediate vicinity of the slum and to some extent the rest of the Telengana area. The range of attraction of the slum is therefore constricted. Evidently, even the socio-economic conditions of slum dwellers are not too good, as is testified by their income and expenditure patterns and their being mired in debts. The slum has public facilities like drainage, street lighting, tap water etc... and is therefore considered favorably by the residents. The only demand, which has not been catered to, is that of a public library. This shows the aspirations of slum dwellers, which may be in the direction of upward mobility, as education is seen as a means to climb the socio-economic ladder. However, as of now the slum dwellers as mentioned earlier are not very well off. This is also attested to by the lack of land ownership apart from some of them owning their residential units and the mere absence of poultry and cattle wealth, which are an essential part of the village-like milieu of some of the slums. However, their residential units seem to be strongly built and equipped with such facilities as fans and some other electrical appliances, which give them a decent living space. Most of them have an active after work life, being regulars at outdoor recreational spots and making frequent visits to relatives etc... Their means of transport however, are modest in keeping with their overall condition.

### **LOCATION OF GANDHINAGAR SLUM AND THE FLOW OF MIGRANTS FROM DIFFERENT PLACES**

Analysis of map 1 suggests that more than 50% of the migrants to the slum are from the same municipal ward of the city, about 5% are from other places in south Hyderabad and about 30% are from other parts of the state.

Table no.27 **Pattern of migration from all directions into Gandhinagar Slum 2001**

Miles	Percentage of Persons
0-1	16.67
1-2	-
2-3	38.89
3-4	5.56
4-5	11.11
>5	27.78
<b>Total</b>	100

The above mentioned table no.27 and figure.3 tells us that people from all directions have migrated to Gandhinagar slum. Out of which more than 35% have migrated from 2-3 miles distances from the slum, also a majority of migrants are from a south direction. From the north the migration is not much and from east it is still lower. From east and south directions migration is from out of the city that is they have come from far off distances. In the northern

direction also people from beyond the city have migrated. Here we find both inter and intra city migration. Western direction is the only direction where the migrants from other parts of the city did not enter, but came from 4-5 miles of radius. The majority of migrants came from short distances of 0-1 miles. It is thus evident that a majority of the migrants came from the southern direction and so far as the distances are concerned the 2-3 miles distance is the major contributor to the migrant streams.

Table no.28 **Total Experiences on Various Requirments per month in Rupees**

SNo	Items	Number	Percentage
1.	Food	51 500	59.27
2.	Rent	2 700	3.10
3.	Clothing	5 708	6.57
4.	Medicine	11 400	13.12
5.	Alcohol	3 450	3.97
6.	Education	12 120	13.95
7.	Total	86878	-

It is clearly seen from figure.1 that the residents of the Gandhinagar slum are spending more than 50% of their income on food followed by education which is 13.95%. Medicine is also an important requirement for them and they are spending 6.5% on clothing. Fewer amounts are being spent on rent and alcohol that is 3.10 and 3.97 respectively.

Figure.1

