

Abstract

The broad objective of the study entitled “**A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF DALIT COMMUNITY IN THE CULTURAL CONTEXT OF SARAJ AREA IN JAMMU REGION**” is to analyse caste hierarchy of various Dalit community in their indigenous cultural settings. The study proves that traditional customs, backward economy and upper caste assertion has marginalised all Dalit community. Hence, they are facing high incidence of marginality among all population in the area. In order to see how for the socio-economic and cultural conditions of Dalit facilitate the super-ordinates and how their inter-personal relations co-relate to each other, the following objectives are adopted

1. To analyse the demographic and socio-economic profile of Dalit community of Saraj area in Jammu region.
2. To study caste hierarchy and caste relations among various castes and their implications.
3. To study the problems and statuses of women, elderly persons and children of Dalit in the region.
4. To critically examine various developmental schemes undertaken by government.

The entire study is based on field survey conducted at village Rajgarh of District Ramban in J&K. During field work ethnography, participant observations, case study methods, focus group discussion, field notes and extensive long interviews are taken as tool and techniques of data collection. The contemporaneous findings of study shows that society is still drench in caste norms. Women, children and elderly are suffering due to multiple socio-economic issues. The government made many efforts for the development of Dalit but lot more is needed to uplift the Saraji people.