Population Dynamics of Village Danshanichara (Azamgarh District), Uttar Pradesh, India

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Author's contribution

The sole author designed, analysed, interpreted and prepared the manuscript.

Original Research Article

ABSTRACT

Population is influenced by many factors that fall into the broad realms of demographic characteristics, socio-economic conditions across space and time. This paper adopts an approach to investigate the spatial and temporal variations of these factors effects on population change. Specifically, we conduct the analysis at the micro level Village Danshanichara in Azamgarh District In Uttar Pradesh. The results suggest that the factors have varying effects on population change over time and across rural, suburban, and urban areas. Their effects depend upon the general trend of population redistribution processes, local dynamics, and areal characteristics. Overall, a systematic examination of population dynamics should consider a variety of factors, temporal and spatial variation of their effects [1]. The examination should have the flexibility to identify and incorporate influential factors at a given point in time and space, not to adhere to a single set of drivers in all circumstances. The findings have important implications for population predictions used for local and regional planning.

Keywords: Population dynamics; micro level; spatio-temporal; age-sex structure.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Population is one of those various group of elements which cause the various regions of earth of differ and in real sense it is the human occupancy of land that gives character and significance to a geographic area more than any other factor. In geography, the central theme is area differentiation of which the population or the human life forms the dynamic element (Joshi, 1983). According to Trewartha [2], population is the point of reference from which all the other elements are observed and from which they all, singly or collectively, derive significance and meaning. It is population, which furnishes the focus. Among various elements of population composition, sex composition holds an important place for demographers. The sex composition, in numerical sense, is expressed in terms of sex ratio which is the ratio between males and females in a population [3]. For the analysis of various demographic characteristics and for the planning purpose it is pertinent to collect data for males and females separately. In the discipline of population geography the study of both sexes separately assumes more importance due to their various complimentary and contrasting roles in the socio-economic development of a particular region. This paper attempts to discuss the spatial variation in population of village Danshanichara in the district for the period of 1981-2011.

1.1 Location Extent and Boundary

About District: Azamgarh district is situated in eastern part of Uttar Pradesh. In terms of exact location, it can be said that Azamgarh is located at 26°03'' North latitude and 83°13'' East longitude. Saryee and Chhoti Saryee river make its boundary in a long distance on North of Azamgarh. District boundaries are not in strait form but curve type. East to West distance of study area (Azamgarh) is spreaded over 75km and North to South distance is 85 km long. According to census 2011, area of Azamgarh district was 4,234 km^2 but now after the exclusion of Atraulia it has only 4,108 km^2 area [4]. If we consider about the boundaries, it is surrounded by six other districts. In northern side Gorakhpur and Ambedkar Nagar make its boundary. Mau district is situated on eastern side of study area. Ghazipur is spreaded over south – eastern side. In western side Azamgarh is surrounded by sultanpur. Jaunpur touches the boundary of Azamgarh in South-Eastern part (Village Khasra, 2011).

About Village: Village Danshanichara lies at Sagri Tahsil in Azamgarh district. Six other villages touch the boundery of village from different directions. In northern side of the village, Katui and Nauli are situated. Bijiapar makes its boundary in the eastern side. It is surrounded by Bastsara on South – Eastern side. Durji Bhavarahra touches on South-Western part and on the southern side Majhua village is found. Here agricultural activities are practiced [5].

2. OBJECTIVES

1. To analyse the spatial variation in sex composition in Village Danshanichara.
2. To analyse the temporal variation in village for the different periods.

3. METHODOLOGY

The study is primarily based on secondary data sets generated through various internet sources like official websites of Census of India and Azamgarh district. District census handbook of Azamgarh district is the primary source of data regarding sex-ratio in spatial as well as temporal scale. First of all data regarding sex ratio has been collected and tabulated in spatial scale tehsil wise and in temporal scale it is categorized census year wise.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Population Dynamics

In the present population of the village is about 938 persons, which shows an increase of 181 persons over the population in 1993. This gives an annual increase of 3.5% which is rather very high. Table 1 shows the changing pattern of male-female population in village Danshanichara. It is noted that until 1981, the number of females was greater than that of the male but the position has been reversed in 1992 – 93.

4.2 Age-Sex Structure

Like most developing regions with subsistence economy, village Danshanichara also shows preponderance of children. The age-sex structure shows a continuous decrease of population in the higher age-groups. The number of male is also greater than the females in almost all the age groups except below 5 years.

4.3 Growth Rate

In 2011 the actual population of village has been counted to be 938 in 2001 with 503 males and 435 females and in 1991 population was 798 with 422 males and 375 females. So the

population growth rate is 17.54%. In year 1991 and year 2001 village population was 468 and 617 respectively. Therefore after analyzing the data it is outcome that during 10 years interval or time to time population has been grown continuously.
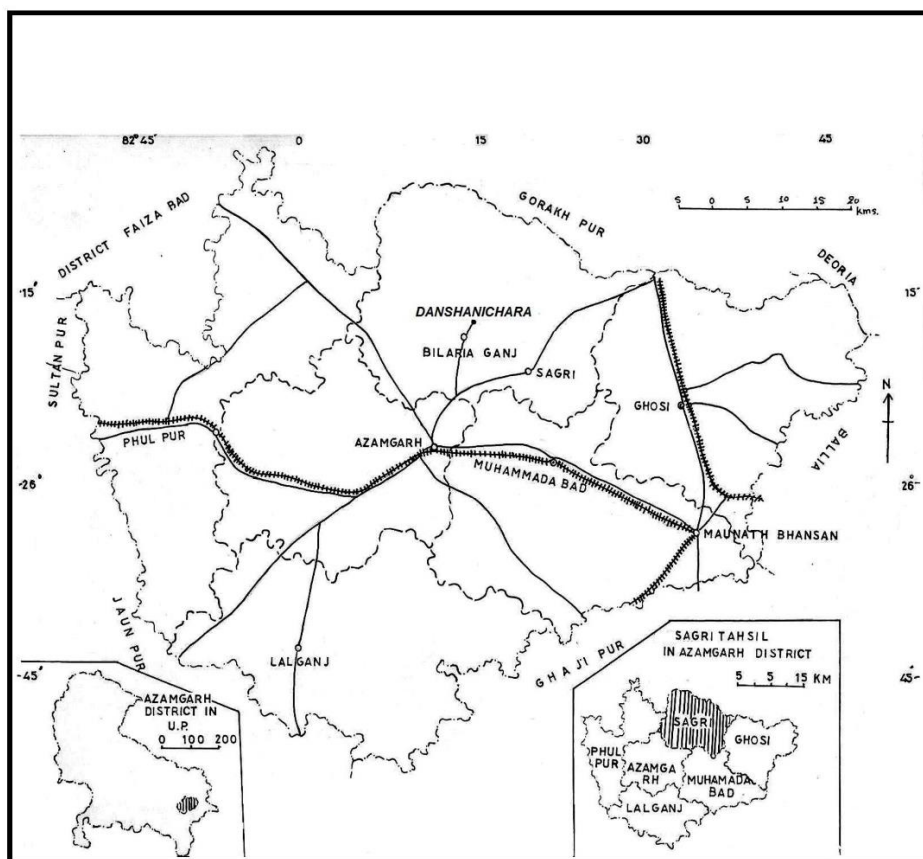

Fig. 1. Location of village Danshanichara in Azamgarh district

Table 1. Changing proportion of male-female population in village Danshanichara

Year	Population		
	Male	Female	Total
1981	226	244	468
1991	303	314	617
2001	422	375	798
2011	503	435	938

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

Table 2. Age – Sex structure in Village Danshanichara 2011

Age Groups (Years)	Male	Female	Total
Below 5	47	65	112
6 – 12	78	69	147
13 – 18	85	72	157
19 – 40	191	152	343
41 – 60	87	68	155
Above 60	15	09	24
Total	503	435	938

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

Table 3. Decadal population growth rate in village Danshanichara

Year	Total Population	Growth rate (%)
1981	468	—
1991	617	31.83
2001	798	29.33
2011	938	17.54

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

4.4 Sex Ratio

As it has already been discussed that employment being the dominant cause of migration, sex ratio is favourable in the rural areas compared to the urban areas. Urban areas of the district have more employment opportunities than rural areas. That is why male population of the rural areas has migrated in search of employment to the other urban areas consequently lowering the sex ration in urban areas [6]. After a keen observation of sex-ratio in village, we see that the number of female was greater than of male before 2001. In year 1981 and year 1991 female population was 244 and 314 respectively. And male population was 226 and 303 in year 1981 and 1991 respectively. But after 1991, population of male has been increasing accordingly. Therefore sex ratio in village is 864 (2011). In 1991 it was 1036.

4.5 Caste-Wise Population

The Table 5 gives information about caste-wise population in village Danshanichara. It is noted that a large number of population owned by Brahmin caste in village, percentage ofBrahmin caste is 62.2%. And the other castes are Ahir (9.97%), pasi (13.1%), Chamar (11.9%) and Kahar (2.9%).

4.6 Literacy

After a careful study of literacy in village, it is clear that the increase in the percentage literacy rate in village is 68.12%. At present in the village 639 persons out of a total of 938 persons are literate in which 43.7% are educated below high school while the rest 19.42 belongs to the higher education group. However the level of literacy differs considerably by sex and time. At present the literacy amongst male and female population has big difference. There are some causes which are responsible for it –

- People (mostly) give priority to male literacy than female literacy.
- Marriage in childhood and restrictions on mobility is also a main factor in less female literacy.

4.7 Occupational Structure

The economic attainment of a community is a reflection of its various activities and the standard of living depends upon the economic structure of that community.

Table 4. Changing proportion of sex-ratio in village

Year	Male Population	Female Population	Sex-Ratio
1981	226	244	1033
1991	303	314	1036
2001	422	375	888
2011	503	435	864

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

Table 5. Caste wise population in village Danshanichara 2011

Castes	Population (2011)	Percentage
Brahmin	584	62.2
Ahir	91	9.7
Pasi	123	13.1
Chamar	112	11.9
Kahar	28	2.9

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

Table 6. Occupational structure in village Danshanichara 2011

Occupations	No. of Persons	% of Working population
Agriculture	281	49.83
Business	49	8.68
Services	83	14.71
Contractors	31	5.49
Construction workers	72	12.76
Others	48	8.51
Total	564	

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

Table 7. Income – Structure of Village Danshanichara

Income Groups<Rupees Per Months>	No. of Persons	%age of working Population
Below Rs. 50	40	12.5
50 – 100	20	6.2
100- 150	150	46.6
150 – 200	4	1.2
200 – 250	4	1.2
250 – 300	5	1.5
300 – 600	68	21.2
600 – 1000	9	2.8
Above Rs. 1000	21	6.5

Source: District Census Handbook, Azamgarh District

Table 6 shows the occupational structure of village in 2001. It is noted that about 50% of working population is engaged in agriculture. The service sector is next important group accounting for 14.71%.

4.8 Economic Structure

Natural resources form the basis for economic development of any geographical unit. Besides, adequate and improved technical knowledge is also a basic requirement for development. Until recently, this has been lacking in our countryside about it has just started developing [7]. This standard of working population forms an asset in the economic structure.

4.9 Population Problems

The village Bijiapar faces following population problem:-

(i) In village fertility rate is more than mortality rate. Each year this percentage is growing rapidly. Unpopularity of population policies and family planning is also responsible for it.

(ii) Mortality rate in village is sharply declining each year. So it is also a main problem.

(iii) After the study of population growth in village. There is only one outcome that each year number of population is increasing. In year 1971, it was 468 but today in 2001 it is 938.

(iv) In village facilities of health is very poor. There is not any proper hospital. In the condition of illness people prefer to go nearest town.

(v) Less percentage of vitamins and calories are included in villager's diet. Low standard of living and poor conditions are responsible for it. As a result incidence of disease is higher.

(vi) Poverty is also the main factor in population increasing some villagers find it difficult to arrange two time food.

(vii) Per capita productivity is very low.

(viii) Because of inadequate facility of education, people are illiterates. Female literacy in comparison to male literacy is very low.

(ix) Since marriageable age is very low in village.

(x) Higher rate of life expectancy is also main factor. As a result a large number of population of above 60years age is dependent or the relatively small work force.

(xi) The village is characterized by agrarian based subsistence production. Traditional and absolute methods and implements for cultivation, lack of capital of investment,

fragmented holdings and semi feudal tenancy relations make the base of this type of economy very weak.

(xii) Lack of capital, outdated technology and inadequate skilled manpower have resulted in a weak industrial base. This has prevented any substantial improvements in living standards of villages.

(xiii) Inward looking attitudes restrict flow of awareness regarding birth control, family planning etc.

(xiv) Low level of technological developments.

(xv) Disproportionate share of younger population

(xvi) Lack of diversification in economy.

4.10 Planning for Population and Suggestions

In view of population, settlement and accessibility, village is not rich. So keeping all the aspects in mind, the following plan are suggested:-

(i) To reduce fertility rate is necessary because it is growing year by year rapidly. And by it, pressure is creating on village population.

(ii) Standard of health facilities are very low. So, by improving health requirements we can develop the village.

(iii) Removal of poverty because it is another obstacle in development.

(iv) Consciousness in villagers to follow population policies and family planning.

(v) A new settlement area is suggested to meet the housing requirements of villages growing population. This settlement site is planned on poor-quality land. So that fertile land is not taken away from agriculture. Thus, the east central part of the region adjacent to the main road is taken as best possible site establishing new houses.

(vi) Construction of new road, repair and widening of the existing cart-tracks are also of great importance.

(vii) Balance between population growth and available resources.

(viii) Population control.

(ix) A large number of population are illiterates in village. So by encouraging literacy it is possible that population become controlled.

(x) Schedule castes (chamar, pari, kahar) are found in large number. But their living condition is not good. Where they like

houses are in bad condition. So improvement is necessary.

5. CONCLUSIONS

According to available estimates, during the period from 1950 to 2005 the rural population of less developed countries increased from 1.4 billion to 3 billion [8], thus more than doubling in numbers. This demographic shift has had profound effects on rural development efforts and achievements [9]. In some cases, rural population growth has played a positive role: it stimulated technological progress, allowed economies of scale in production and infrastructure, and thus opened the way to rural economic growth, which in turn has lead to declines of mortality and fertility levels in accordance with the familiar concept of demographic transition [10]. The demographic processes described in this research paper highlight some of the challenges and opportunities that will manifest themselves in the coming decades. Most of district will have to deal with massive internal population movements as many rural inhabitants leave their homes in search of urban jobs and life styles. The question is whether this will lead to increased higher levels of urban primacy, or to more balanced geographic distribution of human resources [11]. The outcome is likely to depend on policies that promote incentives and create economic opportunities for migrants, rather than impose constraints on spatial mobility. Village undergoes its demographic transition with substantially lower levels of capital, poorer infrastructure and overall lower levels of human capital accumulation. The challenge for area will be to provide its growing working age population with adequate social services and economic opportunities.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Author has declared that no competing interests exist.

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