CHAPTER VI

CASE-STUDIES OF UNIQUE FAMILIES IN FIVE SELECTED SLUM-AREAS IN THE KOLHAPUR CITY
Family is an important social institution. Family can be viewed with respect to its two-fold dimensions i.e. family as a social institution and as a primary social group. So far as the family as a primary group is concerned, it is based on blood-relationships. In present times, family mainly comprises of husband and wife and their children. Husband and wife are related by marriage with each other. Marriage and family govern the husband and wife relationship and the blood relationships among its members. Family as a social institution, plays an important role in man's social, economic and psychological life with respect to its members.

Family, as a social institution presents its universality in society and it is based on emotional bond among the members residing in the family.

So far as the present study is concerned, family is posed as a unit of the study. Among the families in slum-areas, a few families are nuclear families while others being small in number comprise of the joint families, consisting of a large number of members.

Parents lead the children to take educational opportunities. The parents in slum-areas aspire that their children should get white-collar jobs. The atmosphere in the families influences child's psychological, emotional, social urges and needs. While taking into consideration the vital role played
by the family as a social institution in the social, educational, psychological
development of child; we shall cite some unique case-studies of the families
which are proved to be exceptional in slum-areas from the view-point of
educational development of children. We have selected both types of
families i.e. the families which provide conducive environment for educational
development of children and other families which are unfavourable to bring
about educational development of children.

Rajendra Nagar slum-area

1. Harun Yusuf Shaikh

1) Harun Yusuf Shaikh is a resident of Rajendranagar slum, He is Muslim
by religion. His family is a local inhabitant in the Kolhapur city. His
family consists of six members. He has three children. His first child
is studying in VI std. He has been enrolled in Tejas Mukta Vidyalaya.
Harun is working as a lathe operator in an industry established at
Udyamnagar. The monthly income sums upto Rs. 3000 per month. He
has enrolled his first child, Ajmer, age 12 years in Tejas Mukta
Vidyalaya because he is of the opinion that this school is keen and
efficient in imparting education to all students. His second child is six
years old. He has been admitted to Montessory class. Ajmer is also
keen on gaining religious education imparted by Madrassah which he
attends regularly. He learns rules about conduct and behaviour in
Madrassah, while interacting with others in society. Madrassah teaches
him to behave according to the religious norms of Islam and perform
good deeds. Ajmer is an obedient boy both in the family and at the school. Harun's family is regarded as a peaceful family. He interacts with the neighbours on festivals like Ramzan Idd, Moharrum. He rarely attends the meetings held on the occasions as Ambedkar Jayanti, Independence Day and Republic Day in the slum-area. Both parents are attentive to the studies of their children and they satisfy the needs of their children. So far as Ajmer is concerned, he is influenced and developed by the teaching of Tejas Mukta Vidyalaya and Madrassah. Harun, himself is not much influential to create interest about studies in his child, but he admits the fact that the work of development of his child will be carried out by the school. Ajmer and his family-members watch the T.V. programmes, Marathi and bulletins, Marathi serials, a serial on Arabian Nights. Movies telecasted for children are seen by the family members. Ajmer is studious, interested in study. He participates in cultural programmes which are presented by Tejas Mukta Vidyalaya. Ajmer has read a number of books written on important personalities as Rani Lakshmibai, Madam Cama, Sarojini Naidu. The special feature of this family is that there is congenial and peaceful atmosphere among the family members which is conducive to psychological development of children and parents encourage their children to participate in social activities carried on by the school and the society in slum-area. The family confirms to the acceptance of norms by paying charges of electricity and water-bills and other municipal taxes.
2) Shri Gautam Goraksha Sawant.

Shri Gautam is a resident of Rajendranagar slum-area. He is Harijan by caste. His family includes five members i.e. himself, his wife and three children. He has three children, the first one Vaishali, the girl-child is learning in VI std. in Tejas Mukta Vidyalaya, while other two children are learning in IV std. and I std. in Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan School which is organised by Kolhapur Municipal Corporation. Gautam is 32 years old and he is a plumber by occupation. He also carries on business of making material for P.V.C. pipe-fitting. In this way, he is earning 4000 Rs. per month. His family has been migrated from Gadchinglaj and now for the time-being he is settled in Rajendranagar slum-area, Kolhapur. But both of them, husband and wife are not of the opinion of settling permanently here. According to them, the social atmosphere of Rajendranagar slum-area is not favourable for the children to take education. Gautam has passed S.S.C. and his wife, Shanta has passed IX std. A peculiar feature of this family is that the mother personally attends to the needs of the children in the family. She personally provides attention to the studies of their children. The first girl-child attends the tuition-classes in the slum-area. The parents are keen about providing means of educational aid to their children. They realise the importance of education in shaping the personalities of their children. In the opinion of both parents, it is only the education which will lead these children to make progress in life.
to acquire better means of livelihood. All the three children are 
obedient ones. All the members of the family have accepted normative 
behaviour in society. The family regularly pays the bills for electricity, 
water, cess-taxes etc. Vishal, the second boy-child in the family 
actively participates in debate-competition. For preparing Vishal to 
take part in debate competition, the mother plays an important role 
to prepare Vishal to take participation. She makes preliminary 
arrangements to prepare him for boldness and face the audience 
through interaction and discussion on the subjects of debate. Sandeep, 
the third boy-child is studious, intelligent, showing high level of 
comprehensive ability. Shanta, the mother in the family is taking 
training in tailoring and she tries to be economically independent 
member of the family. The family experiences a few occurrences of 
quarrelling. The socio-economic atmosphere prevalent in the family is 
favourable for the educational development of children. The speciality 
of this family is that the mother is the back-bone of the family to 
create interest among the children about studies and extra-curricular 
activities carried on by the school. The father in this family has to go 
on tours for carrying on his business, and the mother has to attend to 
the duties of a housewife. The aspirations of the parents have an 
influence on the manner and ways in which educational development 
of these children takes place. The wishes of the parents make their 
children to be appropriate enough to achieve qualification in higher 
education.
3) **Sopan Nivruti Rasal.**

Sopan Nivruti Rasal has settled in Rajendranagar slum-area. His family is Mang by caste. Sopan is the head of the family and 55 years old. He is migrated from Miraj. He is illiterate, not able to read and write. His family is a large one, consisting of nine members. He is engaged in cutting wood in wood-depot and earning Rs. 1500 per month. His wife, the mother in the family collects scrap and earns Rs. 20 per day. Sopan has two elder sons, Namdev and Abhiman by name, are earning members of the family. The eldest son, Namdev is engaged in masonry. He is earning Rs. 1000 per month. Abhiman works in a factory on the wages of Rs. 700 per month. Other two younger children of Sopan do not attend the school. While Jana, his daughter, 12 years old, is admitted to Tejas Mukta Vidyalaya. She is studying in VI std. Jana is a brilliant, hard-working student but she is irregular at the school because she has to attend to household work at times. The family shows acceptance of social norms, paying all types of taxes and bills. All the members interact with neighbours in a good manner. Though there are four earning members in the family, we find lack of integrity, homogeneity, emotional bond among the members of the family. In the last month, the mother was offscounding and now she is staying in a village in Ratnagiri district. So far as economic conditions of this family are concerned, one can say that the members of this family live by hand to mouth only. Means of educational aid are not
provided to Jana. Jana is intelligent, straight-forward by nature, therefore she feels that she has to stay in such a family, where there is absence of congenial atmosphere based on emotions and good feelings among the family members. Jana has to suffer from emotional strains and stresses. While interviewing with the family members, we found that Jana rarely had informal contacts with her family members. The family resides in a hut, having only one room, facing a problem of insufficiency of space.

There are a number of incidents of quarrels among the family members. The socio-economic background of this family is not favourable for the children in the family to take education. The whole atmosphere based on familial relations is devoid of emotions. Therefore Jana tries to receive feelings of affection from the teachers of the schools. She participates in cultural activities carried on by the school. She finds herself at ease in the atmosphere of school. This family represents an example where social, economic and psychological needs of the children are not satisfied by the parents. The special feature of this family is that it does not represent an 'economically well-off' family. The family is harassed by economic problems and characterised by emotional strains and absence of congenial relations among members of the family. Such type of family poses a hindrance in the way of progress and educational development of the children in the family. When a family is consisted of a large number of children, it is difficult for it to be attentive to satisfy all needs of the family members.
4) **Smt. Shantabai Krishna Nalawade.**

Smt. Shantabai Krishna Nalawade is a widow, sixty years old. This family is a large one, including nine members. The family is Vadd by caste. It is migrated from Dapoli, district Ratnagiri. Smt. Shantabai is an illiterate woman, having seven children - five sons and two daughters. Two daughters are illiterates. Her two elder sons are labourers, earning wages Rs. 400, 300 per month. One daughter is mentally handicapped. Raju and Anil, the two younger sons are admitted to school. Anil left the school when he was in the III std., while Raju is learning in VI std. in Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan School established by Kolhapur Municipal Corporation. The family shows confirmity to social norms. Raju is provided note-books and books and other necessary material to take education. The mother, though being illiterate, knows the importance of education in life. She especially encourages Raju to attend and learn in school. Raju watches the T.V., Marathi bulletins and the programmes to be telecasted on the subject like agriculture. He is a regular student, interested in studies. He is good at drawing and makes a number of articles out of clay. So far as the psychological make-up of Raju is concerned, he is neutral, calm and quiet. He bears a sense of responsibility because he knows that his mother has to face hardships. Due to mother's hardwork, he will be in a condition to make a living after completing his education. Though the family is a peaceful one, accepting normative behaviour in
society, it faces some psychological problems. The family stays in a small hut, faces the problem of shortage of space to accommodate all the members of the family. None of the elder members of the family marry. Two sisters of Raju are unmarried. One sister is mentally handicapped. Therefore we found absence of congenial relations among the family members. The peculiarity of the family is, Raju strives to get normal life both at home and in the school on his own efforts. The family, like this, suffering from psychological problems cannot make a way for educational development of children in it.

**Lakshatirth Vasahat.**

5) **Manohar Ramchandra Chaugule.**
Manohar Ramchandra Chaugule is residing in Lakshatirth Vasahat. He is a Maratha by caste, 48 years old. He is literate but unfortunately was not able to pass his Matriculate examination. His family consists of seven members. He has five children. Among these children, two eldest daughters have been married. He is the owner of a lottery centre, gaining income of Rs. 3000 per month. He has a constructed house consisting of four rooms. The parents in the family are attentive to satisfy the needs of the children. His two sons, Pran and Gautam have been admitted to Prabuddha Bharat High School established in Lakshatirth Vasahat. They have been admitted to this school because the children receive note-books and it is a high school imparting
education up to X std. Pran attends the tuition-classes held in the locality. The family shows the acceptance of social norms. The family has a T.V. set, but it is seldom used by the family members. Yojana, the elder daughter teaches her young brothers at home. The parents realise the importance of education. All these children are obedient members of the family. The parents provide all types of educational facilities to children. The atmosphere within the family is favourable for educational development of children. The parents are of the opinion that the children should aspire for achieving better jobs so that they can be economically well-settled in society. Both these children, Pran and Gautam are studious, interested in studies, the children have a liking for the school. One room of the house is reserved for the study purpose of these children. The parents guide their children to avoid the company of vagabond children. The children, Pran and Gautam participate in extra-curricular activities. They take part in essay-competition and debate-competition. Pran participates in one-act play presented on the stage by the school. The special feature of this family is that it is peaceful family and the parents are very attentive to the educational upbringing of children. They are sensitive enough to guard their wards against the influence of evil elements which are present in the slum-locality.

6) Vishwas Shamrao Tipugade.
Shri Vishwas Shamrao Tipugade is owning a small house consisting of
two rooms in Lakshatirth Vasahat. He is Maratha by caste, completed his education upto VII std. and 37 years old. His family is a nuclear one, consisting of five members, himself, his wife and three children. He is working as a peon in Kolhapur Municipal Corporation, earning Rs. 2500 per month. His two daughters have been enrolled in Prabuddha Bharat School. The eldest one, Vrishali is learning in VIII std. and Vidya attends to the class of V std. These two daughters have been enrolled in this school because the school is near the house. The two daughters are studious, obedient and interested in study. The peculiarity of the family is that the members of the family avoid contacts with vagabond children in the locality. Vishwas, has third child Yogesh by name. He has been enrolled in V.R. Shinde School, which is established by Kolhapur Municipal Corporation. Yogesh is studying in III std. Vishwas, the father in the family criticises the process of imparting education to the students. According to him, the teachers in this Corporation's school are not committed members to the job of teaching. There is a lack of sense of duty among the teachers. Vishwas is a member of Lakshatirth Registered Beghar Nagari Sanstha. While interviewing with Vishwas, we found that, he is a strong supporter of the importance of education in one's life. As a responsible father, he provides means of educational aid and other facilities which are important for educating his children. The family presents a special feature that it is a peaceful family, shows absence of occurrences of
quarrels. The father interacts with other members of locality. He discusses with his daughters about the important events telecasted on T.V. and the main themes of the serials presented on the screen of a T.V. set.

7) **Shri Babasaheb Krishna Jadhav.**

Shri Babasaheb Krishna Jadhav is a resident of Lakshatirth Vasahat, 45 years old. He is Maratha by caste. He is a rikshaw-driver, gaining income of Rs. 1200 per month. His family resides in a small hut. The family includes five members. The family experiences economic hardships. Balasaheb has three children, two elder children, Vandana and Santosh have been admitted to Prabuddha Bharat High School. Both of them are learning in IX std. The younger daughter, Vaishali by name is learning in VI std. in V.R. Shinde School. Vandana is irregular in attendance at school. The school provides some books and notebooks to her, but due to financial difficulties, she does not get adequate number of means of educational aid. In fact, the family does not encourage the girl to take education. This reflects family's (parent's) attitude towards female education. It is the over-all reaction of every poor parent not to be favourable or encouraging towards girl's education. The poor parents, due to economic difficulties, show preference to extend help in order to educate son only. Santosh is an intelligent boy, he participated in one-act play in social gathering held in the school. He also won the first prize as a token of best performance in the one-
act play. Vandana is suffering from health problems. Due to economic hardships, diseases are not cured immediately. That affects her wish, will and efforts to take education in school. The mother in the family, is of the opinion that there should be availability of the attendance scholarships and pre-matric scholarship, so that children in poor family may be helped financially. At least these children can purchase means of educational aid by the money received through such scholarships. The father in the family, Babasaheb is addicted to alcohol therefore the family has suffered from economic hardships acutely. The atmosphere in the family is not favourable for the educational development of the children. The children in this family are deprived of educational facilities. The parents in the family are illiterates. Literate parents know the importance of education in the lives of their wards in a better way than that of the illiterate parents in the family.

8) **Abdul Gani Babalal Momin.**

Abdul Gani Babalal Momin is 45 years old, Muslim, inhabituated in Lakshatirth Vasahat. His family is a large one, consisting of nine members. Abdul has seven children - one son and six daughters. He is a street-hawker, selling ready-made garments. He gets income of Rs. 3000 per month. He has completed his education upto III std. His wife is an illiterate woman. The family resides in a constructed house, consisting of two rooms. The head of the family pays water and
electricity bills and municipal taxes. The family shows confirmity with the social norms. Among seven children, the eldest daughter, 16 years old, has been enrolled in Prabuddha Bharat School. She is learning in IX std. She shows irregular attendance at school because she has to attend to duties at home. The family is a large one, consisting of nine members. She has to assist her mother in the work at home. Other three daughters, Minaz, 14 years old, Nazma, 12 years old and Salama, 11 years old are learning in V std. in Prabuddha Bharat School. Abdul's son, Iaufik by name has been admitted to V.R. Shinde School. Again the last daughter, Rani, 9 years old is learning in II std. in V.R. Shinde School which is established by K.M.C. in Lakshatirth Vasahat. The family experiences economic hardships. The atmosphere in the family towards female education is not favourable. The family is consisted of six girl-children. We found the apathetic attitude of the parents towards female education. Due to low-income level, they cannot provide means of educational aid to all children of the family. In the view of the parents, it is the prime duty of parents to find out suitable life-partners for their daughters. Why to educate daughter more, to make the girl-children literates is enough job for them. Actually the parents in the family are not prepared mentally to make the children self-reliant economically after completing their education. They do not realise the importance of education in the lives of their daughters. Therefore this family represents educational backwardness,
Shri Gangaram Bhau Bidkar.
Shri Gangaram Bhau Bidkar is an inhabitant of Vichare Mal slum-area. He is 40 years old and accepted Buddhism. His family consists of five members. His family is a nuclear family. He has three children. The eldest daughter’s name is Sujata. She is 15 years old, does not attend a school. Other two children are Pradeep and Vijay. Pradeep is 13 years old and Vijay has completed the age of 10 years. Father and mother in this family are literates, completed their primary education. Gangaram is in service, earning income of Rs. 1200 per month. It is a peaceful family owning a constructed house which consists of two rooms.

The peculiar feature of this family is that the father is so much educational-minded that he has admitted his two sons to a convent school, i.e. Seventh Day Adventist School which is established at Shivaji Park, Kolhapur. Pradeep has failed in IV std. due to lack of interest in studies and lack of comprehensive ability. Now Pradeep is learning in VII std. and Vijay attends to the class of IV std. So far as the point of comprehensive ability is concerned, one should take into account the syllabus prescribed by I.C.S.L., Board, New Delhi. The syllabus prescribed by this Board is tough one and a student cannot
grasp the contents of the syllabus easily. Both, father and mother pay regular attention to the attendance of these children at school. Pradeep attends to the special tuition classes held in school. The atmosphere in the house is favourable for satisfying educational needs of children. All means of educational aid are provided to the children without any kind of hesitation. The head of the family pays all types of Municipal taxes and shows the conformity with normative behaviour. The children watch the T.V. programmes and the father discusses with his children with respect to the themes of serials telecasted on T.V. screen and important events in the world which are informed through Marathi and Hindi bulletins. Both the father and mother make a pressing demand for pre-matric scholarship for their wards. Though the father in the family has completed his primary education only, getting status of lower middle-class family, he is aspirant that his children should achieve higher educational qualifications which will promote them to acquire white-collar jobs in society.

10) Layyappa Sattu Torane,

Layyappa Sattu Torane, 45 years old is residing in Vichare Mal slum-area. He is Mahar by caste. Though he has only two children, his family is regarded as a large one, consisting of twelve members. Both the father and mother are illiterate persons. They are unskilled labourers. Layyappa, the father in the family is working as unskilled labourer under the guidance of a mason, earning thereby Rs. 1000 per month.
His wife, the mother in the family works as a maid-servant, earns Rs. 200 per month. Other members in the family contribute Rs. 600 per month to the income of the family. Layyappa's two children, Prakash by name, is 13 years old and another girl-child Tai is 10 years old. Prakash is admitted to 10 Number School established by K.M.C. He is learning in VII std. While Tai has been admitted to Korgaonkar School and attends to the class of VI std. in the school. Layyappa owns a constructed house consisting of two rooms. Though the family represents itself as a peaceful family, it consists of a large number of members with respect to the insufficient space of accommodation. The members of the family face the shortage of space for accommodation. The fact i.e. insufficient space of accommodation acts as a hindrance in the way of satisfying educational needs of children in the family. The parents are attentive enough to provide personal attention to the regular attendance of the children at school. Due to shortage of money they find it is difficult to provide educational means to their children when the demand for educational means is raised by them. This family, from economic point of view, is characterised as a family where members earn their meagre income and therefore, they live by hand to mouth only. This economic aspect of the family compel their members to satisfy their needs with meagre income at hand. As a result of this, some needs of the members of the family are not satisfied to the fullest extent. Another important point is that both the parents in the
family are illiterates, they cannot interact with their children in the same manner as the parents in educated and economically well-off families act with their children. The special feature of this family is that socio-economic atmosphere prevalent in this family does not prove to be conducive to the educational development of children.

CONCLUSION

This chapter has presented the type of families which provide atmosphere for educational development of children in them. While some of the families have not provided adequate atmosphere for educational progress of their children. While concluding on the chapter, one can say when there is homogeneous and congenial atmosphere in the families, the children can make their careers. When the parents, both father and mother are attentive enough to cater to the needs of the children, such families are proved to be successful to satisfy physical, psychological and social needs of their children. The fact that if the parents are themselves educated, they provide educational facilities to their children is proved by case-studies of some families in five selected slum-areas. Large size of the family, educational backwardness, economic hardships suffered by the parents are the important obstacles in providing educational atmosphere for the children living in slum-areas. This fact is proved by the study of Abdul Gani Babalal Momin's family. Sometimes parents are very much ambitious to prepare their children to compete with the children of 'economically better off' and educated families. But parents
have to take into consideration the comprehensibility of their wards while they take to education. They should see that their children do not find difficult to learn the curriculum prescribed for study.