SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION
CHAPTER - VIII
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The main objective of the present study was to examine the position of Muslims in social sectors like education, health, sanitation, schooling of children and the status of Muslim women. To find out the status of Muslims in social sectors 250 Muslim men and 125 Muslim women were selected based on systematic random sampling method. These respondents were selected especially from Muslim dominated areas. Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation (HDMC) consists of 64 wards. Among these, Muslims are dominated in 22 wards. In Dharwad city, their concentration is more in those areas, which are popularly known as 4 M’s areas – Malapur, Manikilla, Mahboob Nagar and Madihal. Other than these, they found more in Railway Station, Baara Kotri, Dhanu Nagar, Atti Kolla, Urgent Nagar and Jannath Nagar. In Hubli city, majority resides in Old Hubli, Islampur, Banati Katti, Ganesh Peth, Kulkarni Hakkal, Momin Plot, Anand Nagar, Mantur Road, Azad Nagar and the like.

The data were collected with the help of an interview schedule from the respective sample. In this chapter, we shall recapitulate the major findings of the study and suggest measures.
Summary

The Socio-Economic profile of the sample respondents indicate that no such significant changes have occurred among the Muslims. If we examine the educational data, a significant proportion of the respondents' parents had either no education or possessed only primary level of education. 32.8% and 46.4% of the respondents' fathers and mothers respectively were illiterates. From the study we found that majority of respondents' fathers belonged to poor occupational background. Almost half of the respondents' fathers (46.4%) were involved in petty business and most of them were earning poor income. However, when we look at the educational background of the respondents, there is a marginal increase in the socio-economic status of the respondents and their parents. Whereas 32.8% of the respondents' parents were illiterate, but only 11.46% of the respondents were illiterates. 42.66% of the respondents possessed primary education. The percentage of respondents who possessed post-graduate degree was less than ten percent. Even though about 90 percent of the respondents of the present study were illiterates, most of them attained their basic education in Urdu schools where the quality of education is very poor. Most of these Urdu schools lack basic infrastructural facilities like dedicated teachers, classrooms, poor teaching, etc. Attaining education
from Urdu medium schools are almost a wasteful exercise, because we found during the field study, most of the Urdu schools were looks like dead-institutions. More than half of the respondents (56.20%) acquired their basic education from Urdu schools.

All the respondents of the present study were married. However, it was found that most of them got married at an early age. It was shocking to note that 16.8% of the women respondents got married between the age of 14-15 and 34.40% of women respondents married between the ages of 16-18. This shows that more than half of the (51.2%) of the women respondents married before they attain 18 years of age. We also found there is a close relationship between age of marriage and level of education. Higher the education, late will be the marriage age.

There is no significant change found in the occupational background of the respondents. More than half (52.4%) of them were involved in petty business like vegetable selling, fruit, flower, fish selling, and having non-veg. shops. We also found considerable percentage of them was working as auto drivers, bus drivers, plumbers, etc. More than fifty percent of the auto-rickshaw drivers in Hubli-Dharwad city are Muslims.
In the sample area, it was found that in most of the upper and middle class families, most of the Muslim women are working as servants. 24.8% of women respondents of the present study were working as servants.

Since, most of the respondents were involved in petty business and auto drivers; their level of income was also low. 61.86% of the respondents' annual income was less than Rs.10,000/-.

It is heartening to note that majority of respondents' children are pursuing education. The fertility rate among the respondents found to be very high. 23.46% of them possessed three children, 20.30% of them have 4, about 10% of them 5 children. Surprisingly, about five percent of them possessed more than 6 children.

Housing and sanitation are the basic aspects of social sector development. Both are the basic needs of human being. In India, inadequate housing and sanitation is the common feature in most of the urban areas. Muslims are the most sufferers of the shortage. Because, majority of Muslims are living in urban areas and in slums. It was found that three fourth of the present study were living in either Kutch, Semi-Kutch or thatched house. Only 18.13% of the respondents possessed Pucca houses. Only 25.7% of the respondents have independent walls of
their houses. Majority of the respondents' houses were in bad shape and unfit for human settlements. Only 10% of the respondents' houses were concrete houses and about one-fourth of the respondents used tiles for the roof of their houses. 77.33% of the respondents revealed that theirs is own house and about three-fourth (73.33%) of the respondents' houses are located in slum areas. We rarely come across Muslim houses in posh or extension areas. About half of the respondents (50.4%) houses consist of only two rooms – Kitchen and living room and 57.3% of them reported that they do not have independent bedroom facility.

Interestingly, more than ninety percent of the respondents had electricity facility and about three-fourth (74%) of them possessed separate kitchen room in their house and have their own tap. Even though respondents revealed of adequate facility, most of them complained about the irregular supply of water. Even though all the respondents possessed bathroom and toilet facilities, both of these are in bad conditions. Most of the respondents’ bathroom looks like temporary tent, covered with torn out clothes. Almost 50 percent of the respondents’ basic sanitation facilities were very poor. Poor sanitation facilities affect women and children most. It was found that most of the poor Muslims defecate in open places,
railway tracks. Scarcity of water, poor toilet maintenance made them to do so.

It is important to note that, Islam has given utmost importance to personal hygiene and habits, because hygiene is most effective ways to protect others and ourselves from illness. Healthy practices and habits help the human beings to keep good health. However, in the present study, it was found that about forty percent (39.50%) of the respondents reported that they do not take bath regularly/daily. Because of irregular supply, scarcity of water, few respondents do not take bath regularly.

Namaz or offering prayers is compulsory for every Muslim. No one should miss/escape from offering Namaz. Even though ninety percent of the respondents reported about offering Namaz, only one-fourth of them revealed that they offer it regularly i.e. five times a day. 14.66% of them offer Namaz only on Fridays. Even though Islam prohibits smoking and consuming alcohol, 33.6% of male respondents said that they smoke. We also found there is a close relationship between income, education and smoking & chewing tobacco among the respondents. Chewing tobacco was found more in the lower income groups. All the men respondents of the study reiterated that they are not consuming alcohol. Nevertheless,
during the field study, the researcher came across many cases of drunkenness.

If we look at the food habits of the respondents, we found that all of them were non-vegetarians. It was also found that Muslims consume non-vegetarian items regularly. 5.6% of the respondents said that they consume non-vegetarian daily. But, most of the Muslims buy mutton or chicken from unhygienic shops. Some of these shops are located near the premises of their houses. One can find blood spots, mutton/chicken wastes near the houses. These spots are the breeding centres of various kinds of diseases. Stray dogs, pigs often found in these areas. Local people do not feel anything about the un-cleanliness. Overall, the health and hygienic conditions of the Muslims in the sample area was found to be very poor. There is no sign of improvement in this regard.

Children are the future of our nation. Their education, health status are the serious concern for the developing countries like India. All the respondents of the present study highlighted the importance of education to their children. They started realizing the importance of secular education to their children. About half of the respondents’ children were pursuing their education in Urdu medium.
Regularity of school attendance was not found among the some respondents' children. 18.66% of the respondents' children were not going to school regularly. In the sample area, most of the dropout children are belonging to Muslim communities. It is disheartening to note that 5.30% of the children's schools located in slums. Almost their 80 percent of the schools located near bus stand. Almost one-fourth of the parents reported that they are not visiting their child's school.

All the respondents of the present study considered that education is necessary for every girl child. 30.4% of the respondents wish to provide as much education to their daughters as they can. The proportion of seeking higher education among Muslim girls is low than other religious groups. It is believed that Muslim men are not in favour of sending their daughters to higher education. 18.13% of the respondents of the present study agreed the view that Muslim men certainly oppose the higher education of Muslim girls. 12% of them disclosed that religious moulvis/leaders are not in favour of the higher education of Muslim girls. They even said that, religious moulvis are the obstacle in the process of change among Muslims.

There is a widely prevalent notion the Muslim women enjoy the lowest status in every sphere of social life. Most of the Muslim women are deprived of basic aspects of human life. But more than fifty percent of the
respondents of the women of the present study revealed that they equally
take part with their men-folk in the decision-making process. However,
54.4% of the women respondents said that their husbands are not co-
operative in the household work.

Almost fifty percent (48.8%) of them did not vote in any elections
and those who voted so far, most of them exercised their franchise
according to will and wish of their husbands and family.

About three-fourth (73.6%) of the women respondents were in
favour of having male children and reiterated that male children are
necessary for the continuity of family. It is heartening to note that more
than eighty percent (82.10%) have shown favourable attitude towards small
family and about three-fourth (75.46%) were in favour of family planning.

The overall performance of the Muslims in social sectors is far from
satisfactory. These are the very essential aspect of every human being.
The essential aspects largely has been given least importance. The
performance of Muslims in these sectors is either remained stagnant as well
as gone down considerably. Primary health, education, sanitation and good
housing conditions are the urgent need for the Muslims. For the overall
development of a community, its social sectors should be strong and
adequate. Whole of Muslim community should be given immediate attention in social sectors. To provide basic facilities huge investment is not necessary. It is important to note that social poverty due to ill health, illiteracy, poor housing and sanitation, low status of women, is more harmful than economic poverty (due to unemployment, low income). One of the major problems of Muslims is that they have almost all basic facilities to their credit. However, all these facilities are in poor conditions. For example, they have bathroom, toilet, and drainage facilities. Nonetheless, all these are in bad shape. They have their own house, but these houses are looks like temporary hut, any time liable to collapse. Even in Census 2001, there is a question on house, but there is no question on the conditions of the house. There is a question on bathroom and toilet facility, but a further question on the condition of bathroom and toilet is missing. Most of these facilities are in worst and in inhuman conditions.

Though Muslim children are started going to school, almost half of them are seeking education in Urdu medium schools. But most of these Urdu schools are good for nothing. One who gets education from Urdu schools, hardly get opportunity in job market. Infact, Urdu medium schools are coming in the way of progress and development of Muslim
boys and girls. Rarely Urdu medium children rise up to the level of higher education and higher levels.

Poor food habits, excess non-vegetarianism, smoking and alcoholism are the root cause for poor health status of poorer Muslims. Most of the poor Muslims consume unhygienic non-vegetarian items, which are damaging the health status of the Muslims. When they fall ill, most of them prefer to visit local and traditional doctors.

Lack of able Muslim leadership is a great concern for entire Muslim community in India. They rise only during elections and show least concern for the upliftment of the community. No doubt there are quite a few NGOs are working in the sample area, they are hardly taking the responsibility of uplifting the community. Most of educated Muslims have become silent and selfish. Poorer Muslims remained poorer. Among Muslims majority of them are poor. Therefore, majority Muslims are backward in socio-economic fields of human life.

As we discussed in our theoretical part, the basic purpose of development is to enlarge people's choices. However, Muslims at large do not have any choices. Development is analyzed and understands in terms of people. Each activity is analyzed to see how much people participating
in it or benefit from it. Muslims in India hardly participate in development activities nor get benefit from it.

Further, human development emphasizes on the formation of human capabilities such as improved health, knowledge and skills. However, most of them lack human capabilities. Muslims have failed in converting opportunities in favour of them due to the lack of human capabilities. The essential components of human development paradigm according to Mahbub ul Haq, (1997) are equity, sustainability, productivity and empowerment. However, these have not occurred among Muslims in India. Equity means equality in opportunities not necessarily results. Equality of opportunity is only a myth and not reality. Sustainability is the future of human development. However, human development process is not occurred among Indian Muslims. Most of the Muslims live or think of today only but not of future. A sustainable development process is not taking place among Indian Muslims. Unless we sustain the human development process, Muslims in India largely marginalized and remained backward.