The present study, "Social Stratification and Education Among Muslims: A Comparative Study of a Village and a Town in Basti District, U.P.", is an attempt to investigate and analyse the attitude of the Muslims toward education based on sub-castes, income, education and rural urban differences residing in village Kusauri and Basti town.

The major objectives of the present study are as under:

1. To investigate and compare the attitudes of different Muslim sub-castes residing in Kusauri.
2. To investigate and compare the attitudes of different Muslim sub-castes residing in Basti.
3. To study and compare the responses of the subjects hailing from different economic backgrounds and residing in Kusauri.
4. To investigate and compare the responses of the respondents hailing from different economic backgrounds and residing in Basti.
5. To study and compare the responses of the subjects hailing from different educational backgrounds and residing in Kusauri.
6. To study and compare the attitudes of the respondents representing different educational backgrounds and residing
in Basti.

7. To investigate and compare the responses of the subjects hailing from Kausauri and Basti.

The data of the present study has been collected from the respondents residing in Kusauri village and Basti town. In Kusauri there are thirteen Muslim sub-castes. The data has been collected from the heads of the families belonging to these thirteen sub-castes. In order to provide a comparative analysis of the findings the investigator has collected the data from the similar sub-castes residing in Basti.

Questionnaire was developed in order to collect the required information from the respondents. The questionnaire consists of two parts: one dealing with the fact finding information and other contains items related to the problem under study.

The data initially has been analysed with the help of Item Analysis method. Furthermore, Chi-square test has been applied to work out comparisons and to find out whether any significant differences are noticeable or not between the respondents of the village and the town.

The analysis of the responses of the respondents hailing from Kausauri and Basti is reported as under:

Majority of the respondents 97.30% and 76.92% hailing from Kausauri and Basti respectively have expressed their opinion that Urdu should be the medium of instruction in
educational institutions.

Majority of the respondents 98.20% & 94.62% representing Kausauri and Basti respectively hold opinion that keeping in view the needs of the Muslims, minority educational institutions are very less in number.

Majority of the subjects 84.68% and 57.69% representing Kausauri and Basti respectively have expressed their opinion that less educated members of their community are more in favour of religious education alone.

Majority of the respondents 84.68% and 57.69% representing Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed their feelings that less educated Muslims are not in favour of scientific education in comparison to traditional education.

Total respondents residing in Kusauri and majority of the respondents 98.46% hailing from Basti have expressed their opinion that Muslims are educationally backward.

Majority of the respondents 54.05% and 96.92% representing Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed that educated Muslims prefer modern education. There seems to be some variations among the respondents hailing from Kusauri and Basti regarding their preference towards modern education.

Majority of the respondents 97.30% and 69.23% representing Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed their opinion that they are not satisfied with the prevailing
system of education.

Majority of the respondents 81.98% and 73.08% hailing from Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed that Muslims are not aware and making full use of available educational facilities.

All the respondents representing Kusauri and Basti have expressed that education plays a significant role in the overall development of the human personality.

Majority of the respondents 95.50% and 85.92% residing in Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed that the Muslims on account of lack of education are backward in Trade and Business.

Majority of the respondents 92.79% and 96.15% representing Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed that the members of their community prefer to send their children for education in minority institutions managed by the Muslims.

Majority of the respondents 86.49% and 77.69% hailing from Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed their opinion that on account of economic reasons, largely the people of their community are not encouraging their children to receive higher education.

Majority of the respondents 99.10% of the respondents hailing from Kusauri and total respondents residing in Basti have expressed that in order to raise the educational
standards of the Muslims the present educational system needs change.

Total respondents residing in Kusauri and 98.46% of the respondents hailing from Basti have expressed that majority of the members of their community on account of economic reasons feel difficulty in sending their children to English medium schools.

Majority of the respondents 87.39% residing in Kusauri and total respondents hailing from Basti have expressed that educational backwardness among the Muslim community is on account of dual systems of education prevailing in India.

Majority of the respondents 88.29% and 63.85% hailing from Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed their observations that less educated Muslims are more in favour of early earnings from their sons instead of their education.

Majority of the respondents 96.40% and 99.23% hailing from Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed their opinion that Muslims are less interested in receiving education because they feel that they would be discriminated in getting job or services.

Majority of the respondents 76.58% and 65.38% hailing from Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed their disagreement with the statement that economically well off people of their community give greater preference to religious
education in place of modern education to their children.

Majority of the respondents 98.20% and 84.62% representing Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed that on account of economic reasons Muslim boys and girls very often leave their schools and colleges without completing their education.

Majority of the respondents 99.10% hailing from Kausauri and all the respondents residing in Basti have expressed that if government keeps adequate reservation for the Muslims in employment they may feel encouraged to obtain full education.

Majority of the respondent 93.69% and 94.62% residing in Kausauri and Basti respectively have expressed that Muslim women are interested in getting maximum education.

Majority of the respondents 85.59% residing in Kausauri have expressed their opinion that the practice of puridha system in the Muslim community is responsible for the lack of female education; while on the other hand 81.54% respondents hailing from Basti have expressed their disagreement with the statement.

Majority of the respondents 82.88% and 65.38% hailing from Kausauri and Basti respectively have expressed that majority of the members of their community are not in favour of women seeking employment hence they do not encourage them for higher education.

Majority of the respondents 97.30% and 86.92% hailing
from Kusauri and Basti respectively have expressed that the members of their community are not in favour of co-education.

The above analysis is indicative of the fact that some variation among the respondents representing Kausauri and Basti are noticeable as far as their attitudes and observation towards education are concerned.