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EVOLUTION OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS

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CHAPTER-III
EVOLUTION OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS

3.1 Introduction

We have studied geographical, social, financial condition of the study region in the last chapter. In this chapter we will study evolution of rural settlements in various historical phases. We will try to study geographical and cultural factors and its impact on rural settlement. We will try to put an analysis of the same.

Settlements are created in the human cultural progress to fulfil certain needs. It is a time and place based relative system. After creation a settlement passes through various transitions and later take a shape. These various stages of transition are called evolution.

The struggle between man and nature embodied a cultural reflection. Therefore, rural settlements have passed through various stages these stages are called evolution of settlement. In the primary stage settlements were created at the place where basic human needs were fulfilled. Human settlements were evaluated quickly at the places which were beneficial. Geographical, social, historical and cultural factors played a very vital role in the rural settlement evolution.

In the B.C. time human profession was fully dependent on the nature. Their basic needs were very limited. Rather there motive was limited to fulfil the basic needs. They were fully dependent on the nature to fulfil their needs. According to Geography subject expert Parpillu (1966) “From ancient times man is a social and cultural restrictions because of this tendency. It laid to the development tendency to live in groups developing rural settlements.”

Social restrictions were imposed due to certain things.

i) Premises restrictions and crisis generated fear.

ii) Enhancing social security because of group psychology.

iii) To share property in the locality.

iv) Fulfilment of man power required for agricultural business.

Spirit of cooperating each other.
v) Family institution, marriage, relationship, realization of various responsibilities, help of others.

vi) Justice, security and power to take decisions.

vii) Need of social stability and peace.

viii) Spirit of unity, moral values, cultural respect, prestige and development.

If we study all these issues systematically we can say that human beings are supposed to play various roles and responsibilities at various stages and social circle is one medium through which a man can do it and settlement is a medium of all these things. Human adaptation can be seen in cultural perspective which includes social, economic, moral and spiritual life. Custom, tradition, life values, education, moral values, life style, behavior, language, religion, entertainment are various bodies of culture. Every human society is living its life in the format sketched by its culture. A settlement reflects culture. If we observe ancient settlement minutely we can say that the priority was given to geographical factors. Human settlement evolved where man’s basic and cultural needs were developed of maximum level.

In the modern times business, commerce, transportation, traffic and tourist activities are faster. Settlements are upgraded where on the important highways people staying in a village but are around highway will set up a business like a tea stall, pan shop, fruit sale, snacks, wine shop etc. such business are run successfully because of transportation of vehicles, passengers, tourist etc. These people settle here because of successful business. They leave their native place and settle there. We can find new settlement around a highway.

Settlement of one or two houses develops gradually as a big settlement. In the beginning a settlement is like a housing society or a very small village which develop into a rural settlement. Development of a settlement is faster when the geographical conditions are suitable and dormant sources are available for better life. Generally, evolution of a past settlement is related with various natural, economic, social
and political conditions. It is applicable to all the settlements (Kankure 1998)

Geographical conditions and impact of change is responsible for evolution of any inhabited around any geographical area (Kumbhar 1988). Rural inhabitants were created because of agricultural business. The way there are changes in the agriculture field accordingly there may be changes in the settlement (Mehta 1977). First human settlement was created by uniting certain families. Human beings have started to work in this direction. Development of an inhabitant took place by complete group’s life of number of families (Bodel Powel 1987). Evolution of a settlement is related with geographical, economic, social and political conditions. We find this relationship from ancient times. There is an effort to study settlement with historical timeline.

I) Pre-historical Era (20000 B.C. to 2500 B.C.)
II) Aryan Era (2500 B.C. to 600 B.C.)
III) Budha Era and Hindu Era (600 B.C. to 1517 A.D.)
IV) Muslim Era and British Era (1317 to 1947)
V) Post Independence Era (1947 to 2001)

3.2 Pre-historical Era (20000 B.C. to 2500 B.C.)

If we study history of all human inhabitants we can say that evolution of an inhabitant is related with resources available in that particular locality. Social and cultural factors are effective for the structure of a settlement. Journey of human inhabitant evolution and development is available in ancient literature. Ancient research literature, description of a tourist and historical mythologies. Ancient Indian literature is available in different format and types at larger extent. Deccan college of Pune have conducted archaeological survey in Maharashtra’s Godavari, Pravara, Narmada etc. rivers. The college is doing this survey for last 30 to 40 years in the prehistoric era. Beside it important local information revealed from excavation at Pune, Nashik, Nagar, Aurangabad, Beed, Buldhana, Akola, Osmanabad and neighbouring areas. This excavation revealed
prehistoric information and history of the Pura Yuga, middle ages, fossil age, copper age. Various stones and weapons used by human beings during this lengthy duration were found. Human remains were also found of in this excavation.

Weapons and stones with prepura age were found in Maharashtra at Pravara, Godavari, Mula, Tapi, Narmada rivers. It includes axe, knifes, sickle etc. Research based on ancient things proved that existence was there in Maharashtra’s Konkan and plateau area. Human beings were living in the valley of Godavari, Bhima, Tapi, Wainganga and its tributaries. Man was living in the primary state at the pre stone age in Maharashtra. He used eat tubers, hard shell fruits and non-veg. Man in this age was always wandering for food.

In the mid Paleolithic era size of stone weapons was smaller and the stone quality was good. It technology also was different from pre Paleolithic era. Alongwith these weapons human existence was there in Maharashtra’s Konkan and plateau area. Human beings were living in the valley of Godavari, Bhima, Tapi, Wainganga and its tributaries. Man was living in the primary stage at the pre stone age in Maharashtra. He used eat tubers, hard shell fruits and non-veg. Man in this age was always wandering for food.

In the mid Paleolithic era size of stone weapons was smaller and the stone quality was good. Its technology also was different from pre Paleolithic ear. Along with these weapons remains of animals were found the valley of Godavari and Pravara river. Scholar of archeology field \textbf{Sankliya (1979)} says settlement of primordial age in Maharashtra is not beyond the time of centre plystosacin of geological. It means this time is 1 million years old.

In this era the human settlement was scattered upto Marathwada Ghatotkash caves near Aurangabad, Pitalkhora area near Nanded, Katharwadi, Talavdhar, Aanegaon, Bhitargaon, Warangi, Savangi, Dhangao, Siddeshwar near by Beed, Ambejogai etc. are the places where remains were found and we can imagine about the human settlement. (Somnath Rode 1999)
During the New Stone Age (10,000 B.C. to 5000 B.C.) human beings were living all across the state of Maharashtra. During this age man created a safe settlement in the dry land where it may protect man from natural crisis. Human beings were eating fruits, pulses, vegetables, hard shell fruits, flash etc during this era. They started using animal leather as clothes. Gaund, Bhill, Thakur and Kotku are the New Stone Age tribes. They are shifting towards jungles and hilly area.

3.3 Aryan Era (2500 B.C. to 600 B.C.)

Rigved, Upnishada and Puranas describe about the place of settlement and economic condition of Aryan people. There is a reference that Augusti and his contemporary Rishimunis established ashrama around the state of Maharashtra. Man was using weapons and things that were made up of bronze metal. This age is called as metal age. Aurangpura, Apegaon, Kandari, Dhasna, Badnapur, Bahigaon, Vetalwadi, Jalna are major places citing evidence of bronze stone age. Excavation work took place at Inamgaon, Chandoli, Songao (Pune), Jothe, Nevase, Daimabad (Magar), Gangwadi (Nashik), Tekwara, Pahal Aawlade (Khandesh), Prakashe (Dhule). Based on the excavation in these parts of Maharashtra information of bronze stone age was revealed.

Information given by Sankaliya (1979) as follows. During the bronze stone age human inhabitant may have been around the river valley. Upper places on the river bank may have used for inhabitant and 50 to 100 huts included one settlement. Area of a hut was probably around 9 to 10 feets either in a circle or equal square. Probably wood was used to build a huts. Terrace was covered with bamboo or mod leafs. Soil pots were used to store grain. Cloths were made up of either cotton or silk. Costly stone, rhinestone, terracotta, bronze and rarely gold ornaments were used. Those people probably were non-vegetarians. People during this are survive by animal husbandry and hunting. Human beings continued this lifestyle up 4th century B.C.
Some soil pots were recovered from river side area Salvalde in Khandesh. Some experts says that these pots are familier to the soils parts found under Sindhu civilization. Round stone and steel weapons of stone age were recovered during excavation at Mahur Zari near Nagpur in Vidharbha and at Pavnar near Vardha. Heavy bronze idols were recovered with two bulls on a soil pot, such type of port was recovered from Inamgao. These people used to worship mother God, headless God and headless male God.

Iron age remains were found near Nagpur at Junapani and Mahur Zari and at Paulnar near Vardha. Almost 300 round stones were recovered at Junapani. Sword, Katyar (a type of knife), axe etc. weapons and hummer, hand tools of a carpenter, lamps, bangles, plates of bronze metal were recovered. Remains of gold metal were also recovered.

Remains of a settlement 1\textsuperscript{st} century B.C. were recovered at Pownar stone age as well as iron age like remains were also found there.

Pende (1965) says that during 700 B.C. Aryan people used to attack on new territories and after winning they used develop a new settlement in the valley of river. It is revealed now that the Aryans created settlement around ‘Dandakarnya’. The Puranas which used ‘Jan Sampad’, one of such ‘Jan Sampad’ on the southern part is Bhog Wardhan which is contemporary ‘Bokardan’ in Jalna district. Human being started use of bronc metal weapons and other things. According to Bhandarkar’s view Aryan people used to attack on new territorial around 700 B.C. and they created new settlements in the valley of a river. There is a reference of settlement in Rigveda, Upnishada and other Puran literature.

Maharshi Agasti of Aryan tradition first crossed Vindhya mountain in the south and created settlements. There settlement was located around Godavari river as well as from Mahendra and Makta mountains upto Finhal islands. Agastí Maharshi married to Vidharbha princies Lopmudra. Alongwith Agastí Maharshi number of
other Rishi’s created new settlements in the south. Son of Rishabdev, Vidarbh established on empire by his own name, hence, Vidarbha province was created.

3.4 Budha Era and Hindu Era (600 B.C. to 1312 A.D.)

Nand and Maurya empires were related with Marathwada. Nand-Aaher of contemporary period is contemporary Nanded. Aaher means place of district. Pratishthan was got the southern capital of Nand empire. There was a change in the structure of settlement during Buddha empire regime. Paithan is the contemporary name of Pratithsthan from 236 B.C. to 225 A.D. for almost 460 years the Satvahan empire ruled the whole of Northern Maharashtra and Marathwada. Satvahan empire was spread from Gujrat and Oddisha and in the south upto Kaveri river. These records were found at Nashik, Naneghat (near Junner) and western Maharashtra’s Koreheri. These evidence were recorded based on idol related evidence. Nashik, Naneghat (Near Junner), Kolhapur, Bhokarrdan, Ter and Paithan these were popular and prosperous settlement during contemporary period. There was a peace and happiness during Satvahan empire and there was all-round progress of the society.

Satvahan kings had created a characteristic administrative system throughout their empire. Janpad and Aahar were separated in the administration. There was a proper co-ordination in both also. Janpad included different Aahar and Aahar was separated with different grams. Gram included rural settlement. Gramika was the ruler of the Gram. Mulk, Ashmak, Kunthal and Rishik were the Janpad existed in Marathwada. Contemporary Aurangabad, Beed and some part of Ahmadnagar was included under Mulk Janpad. While Nanded and Jalna districts were included under Ashmak Janpad Osmanabad, Latur, Gulbarga and Solapur districts were included under Kunthal Janpad. North Aurangabad, Nashi and Jalgaon with some other parts was included under Rishik Janpad. Paithan (Pratisthan) was the centre of political as cultural movement.
Based contemporary colour pictures and sculptures of Satvahan empire found at Ajantha, Karle-Bhaje, Junner, Nashik and Pilal Khora we can imagine about the social, cultural condition. We can imagine about the house structure also. Brahmin, Budha and Jain famous literature also can put a focus on structure and evolution of human settlement. Satvahan empire was ended in 225 A.D. and number of empires born in Maharashtra for example – Nandi-Samvardhan and Vatsgama’s Wakatak, Badami’s an Kalyani’s Chalukya empire, Malkhet’s (Malkheda) Rashtrakuta and Devigir’s Yadav empire. King Pravarsen-III build a new capital called Pravarpur and grand temple of Rama. Remains of this temple recovered of Cham river valley in Pavnar around 8 Km. away from Vardha. Vakatak’s king Pravar Sen-first youngest son Sarvsen established a capital of Vatsgucham Sect. It is located at East Akola’s Washim. In 1939 Vindhyashakti King’s Washim bronze plank was recovered. This bronze plank indicated that Wakatak dynasty was ruling southern Vidarbha. The same bronze plank reveals that Nanded was used as Nandikat.

Rashtrakut empires number of inscriptions have been recovered from Vidarbha. Rashtrakut empires King Krishnaraj first’s inscription was found at Bhandak (Bhardrawati, Chandrapur district). This inscription disclose that King Krishnaraj had donated Naganagao village to sun temple located at Rani Amravati. This temple was beated in Yevatmal district and belonged to Unduwarmati sect. King Sidham’s commander Kholeshwar had build a temple at Ambejogai. Aftet 800 A.D. Latur was the power centre of Rashtrakut and this place was a leading place in the education field. Ahmadpur talukas Zarika (Navkund, Zari), Lohara Budruk in Omerga taluka, Devni, Devini in Udgir taluka, Karad in Satara district and Erandeshwar these are the places which we can note exclusively. Even though after 850 A.D. Rashtrakut empire shifted its capital from Latur to Manyatek but their original branch was Latur. Aaltekar’s research proves that, Malkhed (district Bidar, Karnataka), Kandhar district Nanded, Bodhan district Nizamabad were the power centres.
3.5 Muslim and British Era (1312 to 1947)

In 1312 Devgiri Shankar Yadav and Malik Kafur fought a war. Yadav was killed in this war and Yadav dynasty was ended. Allaudin Khilji was ruling Devgiri empire. After Khilji’s, Tughlaq ruled over Maharashtra. They tried to shift capital from Delhi to Maharashtra.

After Tughlaq empire Bahamani, Nijamshah, Adilshah, Baridhad, Kutubshah, Mughal etc muslim dynasties ruled Maharashtra. During Bahamani empire Mahamood Gawan was the prime minister he divided the empire into 4 parts Telangana, Gulbarga, Daulatabad and Varhad. He appointed governor to look after administration of each of the provinces. They are called ‘Fadar’. Varhad province was spread across south north direction. It includes Akola and area nearby Aahare while Aahar Varhad’s capital was Achalpur (Alichpur). Later on Murad shifted Varhad’s main place to Balapur in Akola district. In 1461, Nizamshah was ruling the empire. As he was a minor, Sultan Mahmudshah of Khandesh attacked Bahamani empire and he defeated them at Kandhar in Nanded district. Sultan Mahmudshah’s army was knocking up to Bidar in South.

During 14th century battalion and other weapons were under use to attack. Later on there was a change in the techniques of war and it affected army planning and selected defence places. Strong forts were build up for the purpose of defence. These forts were beated either on mountains or hills. Ditch and strong walls were there to protect residential area or city. In the later phase, settlements along the straight road come into existence. Routine market centre and public centre were the places of political.

The Turk and foreign missionaries in the Bahamani empire were specially aware of well equipped art of sculpture. Indo-Sar Samic means a mixture of local and foreign. Evidence of such type of settlements are found in Akola district. Islam and spreading its culture all across the Vidarbhas. Various mosques, Idgah, graveyard and tombs prove existence of Muslim empire in the area.
During 19th century Britishers helped the farmers who were from Vidarbha and were producing cotton. This is the reason why cotton was produced largely in Akola district and Britishers pay a good amount to carry this cotton either to Britain to Mumbai. Britishers developed railway and road networks in Akola district. This thing was helpful in the development of settlements in Akola district. Britishers introduced so many equipments that was the driving force behind agriculture, business and commerce. It is not like that all the facilities are available today to its settlements in Akola district but due to availability of different facilities there is an enhancement in size of an inhabitant. Population of some settlement are decreased or most of them extinct over the time interference. It lead to political change.

3.6 Talukawise Classification of Rural Settlement names and Percentage

Classification of rural settlements in the study region is fine and interesting. History, ancient stories, legends, regional language, stream of environment and epics we can find many references about the evolution of settlement and their names. While studying names of the rural settlements natural and cultural characteristics as well as geographical basic forces of an area are very useful. While explaining meaning of the name of a settlement it is useful to study habits of human beings elated with a specific area. Their specialties, linguistic, factors of a language in rural area, evidence related with peoples working mechanism and their relationship with earlier and later groups. These are the things which might be helpful.

Prefix in the names of a settlement like Nagar, city, gram, khede, pur, settlement etc. have reflected from Sanskrit language. These are the symbols of Aryan time settlement. Like that Ganj (Market place), Bazar (Weekly or daily) Aabad (Settlement) etc. are settlement name with suffix are from Muslim dynasties. Suffix and prefix in a name of settlement indicates characteristics and importance of an area. Like DI, LI, ALI etc. words originated from Pali name. Pali means settlement on a hill or mountain.
We can find various reflections on the name of a settlement in the study region. It includes natural factors, cultural factors in a geographical area, and political influence of various incidents happened in the past. During Aryan times which settlements were evolved include Pur, Wadi, Tanda, Ti etc. prefix in their names. These names underline influence of the Hindu dynasty, political stronghold as well as domicile tribes. Prefix and suffix in the names of numbers of settlement indicate relationship with natural and cultural factors. Natural factors like plants, animal, stream of water, land structure etc. while under cultural factor include God-Godesses, Caste, Human name and post etc.

### 3.7 Classification of Places and their names of Settlement

There are total 986 settlement in the study area and 636 settlements have prefix or suffix in their name like Gao, Wadi, Put, Ti, Li, Ri, Khurd, Budruk, Ni, Nagar, Khar, Ri, Ki, Wada, Khed, Gaon, Bazar etc. As per order no. it is clear that there are 64 rural settlements in Akola district with ‘gao’ suffix. Akot, Patur and Telhara are the talukas where settlements with ‘gaon’ is found mostly for example – Aadgaon, Ghadegaon, Rajegaon, Mahagaon, Savatgam, Charangaon etc. Balapur has 7 rural settlements while in Akola. Akola taluka there are 9 and in Barshitakli 7 and Murtijapur taluka with less of 4 rural settlement.

There are 19 rural settlements in Akola district with ‘wadi’ prefix it covers almost 2.99% area. There are 9 rural settlements in Akot taluka while Telhara taluka has 4 and Akola taluka 3, Mutijapur 1 and there are no rural settlements in Barshitakli and Balapur with ‘wadi’ suffix.

While studying classification ‘Wadi’ name suffix in Akola district, the map proves that small settlements around a hilly is pronounced with suffix ‘wadi’ for example Dhanagarwad, Alewadi etc. There are 149 rural settlements with ‘Pur’ as a suffix in their name. It is 23.43% of the rural settlements. Most of such rural settlements are located in Akola and Murtijapur taluka with 42 numbers.
In Akot taluka there are 28, Barshitakli 18, Telhara 9, Balapur 6, Patur with very less 4 numbers for example – Rajapur, Majalpur, Murtijapur, Hirpur, Malkapur etc.

Table No.3.1 : Prefix and Suffix Rural Settlement in Akola District (2011)

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<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Tahsil</th>
<th>Telhara</th>
<th>Akot</th>
<th>Balapur</th>
<th>Akola</th>
<th>Murtijapur</th>
<th>Barshitakli</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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Source : Compiled by researcher

Most of the rural settlements in the study region with ‘pur’ suffix are located around water or around small or big water stream. For example in Murtijapur and Akola taluka ‘pur’ suffix is used to a settlement around Purna river or its tributaries. There are 39 rural settlements in Akola district with ‘Ri’ as its end name. Its 6.13% of total rural settlements RI end name is used mostly 8 times in Akot and Barshitakli taluka. It is used 6 times in Murtijapur, 5 times in Balapur. It is used 4 times each in Telhara, Patur taluka for example-Dawan Zari, Bhatori, Songiri, Kanehri etc.

(52)
AKOLA DISTRICT
PLACE NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH PREFIX AND SUFFIX

Map 3.2

Source: Compiled by Researcher
In Akola district there are total 31 rural settlements with ‘Di’ as suffix. It is 4.87% of the total settlements with 8 names it is highest in Akola taluka while Telhara has 7, Akot 5, Balapur 4, Patur 3 and Murtijapur and Barshitakli very less that is 2 in number for example-Bordi, Karodi, Pathardi, Kanadi etc.

There are 65 rural settlements with Khurd as their suffix. It is 10.22% of the total area. Rural settlements with Khurd as their suffix is mostly found in Akot taluka with 13 numbers while they are 11 in numbers in Akola and Barshitakli taluka, Telhara 9, Patur 8, Murtijapur 7, Balapur very less of 6. For example-Talegaon Khurd, Vakhad Khurd, Jambhi Khurd, Ajani Khurd etc.

Indication of using prefix khurd before a settlement indicates its size and duration of its settlement. It means some houses of the main settlement shifted in to remote as its size is small it is called Khurd that is little or small. Hence these names used routinely.

68 rural settlements in Akola district use Budruk as prefix. It is 10.69% in size. Budruk means big or main. When a main settlement is divided or rehabilitated, its houses shifted Budruk and Khurd names are used to indicate its identity. In the study region end name Budruk is used mostly in Akot with highest 14 names, Akola 13, Barshitakli 12, Telhara 10, Balapur and Patur each 7 while Murtijapur very less of 5 rural settlements for example-Karla Budruk, Adgaon Budruk, Sangvi Budruk, Javla Budruk.

There are 18 rural settlements in Akola district with ‘Ni’ as their end name, it is 2.83% of the total area, such place are mostly found in Akola, Murtijapur and Barshitakli. There 4 each settlements, there are Akot 3, Patur 2 and Telhara 1 while there is no place in Balapur ending with end name ‘Ni’ for example- Moypani, Chinchpani, Wanni, Shivani etc.
AKOLA DISTRICT
PLACE NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH PREFIX AND SUFFIX

Map 3.3

Source: Compiled by Researcher (55)
There are 4 rural settlements with suffix ‘Nagar’. It is 0.63% of total area. There is 1 each settlement in Telhara, Akot, Akola and Barshitakli. We cannot found such names in Balapur, Murtijapur and Patur taluka. For example-Gyajuddin nagar, Wallabhnagar, Sevanagar etc.

There are 5 rural settlements in Akola district ending with ‘Shawar’ suffix. Generally suffix ‘Shwar’ is used for a place of confluence of rivers or religious places famous for God Vishnu and Mahesh. In the study area there are 3 such places in Barshitakli taluka, there are 2 places in Akola taluka and with suffix ‘Shwar’ Telhara, Akot, Balapur, Murtijapur and Patur are places where there is no place ending with ‘Shwar’ suffix. For example-Kapoteshwar, Kasmeshwar, Kaileshwar, Ujleshwar, Jamkeshwar etc.

There are 6 places ending with suffix ‘Ti’. It’s about 0.94%. In Patur such rural settlements are 3, in Akola its 2, while in Balapur 1. There are no such places is Telhara, Akot, Murtijapur, Barshitakli taluka of Akola district. For example-Swarpati, Kati, Pati, Sasti etc.

8 rural settlements in Akola district are with suffix ‘Ki’. It is 1.26% total area. There are 6 such places in Akola taluka, it is each one in Balapur and Barshitakli taluka. No such place can be found in Telhara, Akot, Murtijapur and in Patur taluka. For example-Waki, Dadki, Daptki, Manki etc.

Akola district has 12 rural settlements names ending with the suffix ‘Vada’. It is 1.89% they highest 7 in Murtijapur taluka, 4 in Akola, 1 in Balapur and no such place in Telhara, Akot, Patur, Barshitakli taluka. For example-Malwada, Donwada, Partiwada, Virwada, Takwada etc.

There are 3 rural inhabitants in Akola district ending ‘Vi’ suffix. There are 0.47% of total area each me in Akola and Patur taluka while there is no such place in Akot, Balapur, Murtijapur, Barshitakli taluka. For example-Sangvi, Anvi, Andhar Sangvi etc.
AKOLA DISTRICT
PLACE NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH PREFIX AND SUFFIX

Map 3.4

Source: Compiled by Researcher
AKOLA DISTRICT
PLACE NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH PREFIX AND SUFFIX

Map 3.5

Source: Compiled by Researcher
Source: Compiled by Researcher
92 rural settlements of Akola district are with ‘Khed’ suffix covering 14.47% of total area. Such type of highest places can be found in Barshitakli 16, 5 in Murtijapur, 11 in Balapur, 10 in Telhara, 9 in Patur taluka. For example-Pimperkhed, Bhilkhed, Warkhed, Nimkhed, Fuilkhed, Kasarkhed etc.

In Akola district 6 rural inhabitant can be found with ‘God’ suffix with 0.94% area. There are 2 each in Telhara, Akot and Balapur. No such place can be located in Akola, Murtijapur, Patur, Barshitakli taluka. For example-Wani Bhairaogad, Gitapur and Puragad, Nagad etc.

There was 5 rural settlements with ‘Bazar’ suffix. Covering 0.79% area. In Telhara taluka they are 3, each 1 in Akot and Murtijapur taluka. No such place to be found in Balapur, Akola, Patur, Barshitakli taluka. For example-Zari Bazar, Uklibazar, Mategao Bazar, Asegaon bazaar, Shelu bazar etc.

End suffix ‘Bazar’ is used generally for the places while are famous for weekly bazaar such rural settlements are called ‘Bazar’.

If we analyse names of any rural inhabitant we can study about evolution and historical, social and cultural conditions of the places.

3.8 Rural Settlement names associated with Physical Factor

Generally, an inhabitant is created surrounding a natural factor. Therefore, most of the settlements are with natural factor prefix or suffix. River, pond, jungle, animal, geographical structure, land slope etc. are geographical factors responsible for naming a settlement.

There are 511 names of rural settlements associated with natural or environment related factors. Out of these 511 in Akola district 264 are associated with environment factors. 145 names are related with plantation because in the ancient times there used to be a very thick forest. Such territories are named after the plantation found in that locality. There is that type of custom. It proves that a settlement is named after a plantation that was largely available in the surroundings.
AKOLA DISTRICT
PLACE NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH PHYSICAL FACTORS

Map 3.7

Source: Compiled by Researcher
There are 20 such places in Telhara, 25 in Akot, 13 in Balapur, 20 in Akola while 21 in Murtijapur, 26 in Patur and 20 in Barshitakli taluka of Akola district. For example= Pimparkhed, Chichari, Himgiri Budruk, Bora, Nimbora, Pimpri, Umra, Ambodi, Kapshi, Wadgaon, Mendhe, Bori, Kawatha, Impalgaon, Dalambi, Dodki, Karli, Impal Shenda, Pimpal Khuta, Pimpardoli etc.

There are number settlements in the study area which are named after animals. There are 57 settlements like this. 9 in Telhara taluka, 11 in Akot, 5 in Balapur, 13 Akola, 8 Murtijapur and 1 in Patur taluka. There are 10 settlements in Barshitakli named after animals. For example-Chitalwadi, Ghodegaon, Popatkhed, Dhamangaon, Mohala, Manjari, Gaigaon, Masmungshi, Waghjari, Nagroli etc.

**Table 3.2 : Prefix and Suffix and Natural and Cultural Name of Rural Settlement in Akola District (2011)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Tahsil</th>
<th>Plants</th>
<th>Animals</th>
<th>Water / River</th>
<th>Lands capes</th>
<th>Gods</th>
<th>Religious / Caste</th>
<th>Human Name</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Telhara</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>12.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Akot</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>19.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Balapur</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Akola</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Murtijapur</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Patur</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Barshitakli</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>13.11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>145</strong></td>
<td><strong>57</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
<td><strong>62</strong></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
<td><strong>147</strong></td>
<td><strong>511</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>28.38</td>
<td>11.15</td>
<td>5.67</td>
<td>6.46</td>
<td>12.13</td>
<td>7.44</td>
<td>28.77</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source : Compiled by Researcher

There are 29 names of rural settlements named after either water or water stream. This strength is as follows. Telhara taluka 5, Akot 6, Balapur 1, Akola 5, Murtijapur 6, Patur 4 while Barshitakli 2. For example-Jhari Bazar, Talegaon Budruk, Adgaon Budruk, Khirkund, Panaj, Kund, Ridhara, Nipani, Talkhed, Chikhalaon, Chikhili, Chikhalwad, Jogtalav etc.
Study area has characteristics land area. 33 rural settlements are named like this which are unified with geographical features. They are 7 in Telhara, 2 in Akot. 6 Balapur, 7 Akola, Murtijapur 5, 2 in Patur taluka, 4 Barshitakli taluka. For example-Malpur, Dhonda Akhor, Khandala, Dagadkhed, Kharab, Dongargan, Pahadpur, Matrdi, Kakaddari etc.

3.9 Place names associated with cultural environment

Though the settlement evolved according to natural factor, place and conditions, it is not necessary that all the inhabitants evolved due to natural factors. Certain settlements evolved due to cultural factors. The settlements which evolved around cultural factors are named after it. Out of 511 settlements 247 rural inhabitants are named after culture, society, religion, politics, caste, man. 147 rural settlement are named after man his post and qualifications. These are 15 in Telhara taluka, 32 in Akot, 11 in Balapur, 32 Akola, Murtijapur 34, Patur 05 while Barshitakli 18. Names of rural inhabitants are named after man for example-Diwanzari Parasrampur, Shivaji Nagar, Alampur, Rajegaon, Nijampur, Girijapur, Wajegaon, Tarapur, Lakhanwada, Rasulpur, Hirpur, Shirput etc.

38 names of rural settlement in the study area are named after caste factor. Either in the present or parts which caste or religion was powerful named after it. Such type of settlements are as follows. Telhara taluka 02, Akola 9, Murtijapur 6, Patur 2, Barshitakli 5. For example-Bhilli, Pathardi, Jainpur, Pimpri, Wani, Lohara, Kumbhari, Kanadi, Shikthakhed, Kasarkhed, Turkhed Gandalwadi etc.

In the study region 62 names of rural inhabitants are named after God and Goddesses. Telhara has 5 such settlements, Akot 11, Balapur 7, Akola 14, Murtijapur taluka has 12, Patur 5, Barshitakli 08. For example-Wari Bhairagad, Dewla, Khel Satwaji, Deulgaon, Kajikhed, Barlinga, Nandkhed, Kapileshwar, Ambikapur, Murtijapur, Ramkhed, Allupur, Shivapur, Anjani etc.
AKOLA DISTRICT
PLACE NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH CULTURAL FACTOR

Map 3.8

Source: Compiled by Researcher
If we study names of rural settlements in study area, because of their geographical characteristics culture, social customs, traditions, religion, caste, political events, specialties of a mam, impact of condition is reflected. If we study prefix and suffix of a rural settlement, its examination and analysis proves that during the evolution of an inhabitant surrounding effective conditions and place was responsible for selection of a particular name.

This geographical analysis proves that name of a rural settlement is effected by natural factors, cultural, environmental, place and conditions these factors also play a role. Name of an inhabitant proves its evolution and reveal its natural environmental features in the past. Names of an inhabitant are affected by natural factors they also are affected by natural factors. We could get instruction and information if we study geographical analysis of names of rural settlements. It is also helpful in studying geographical as well as cultural features.
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