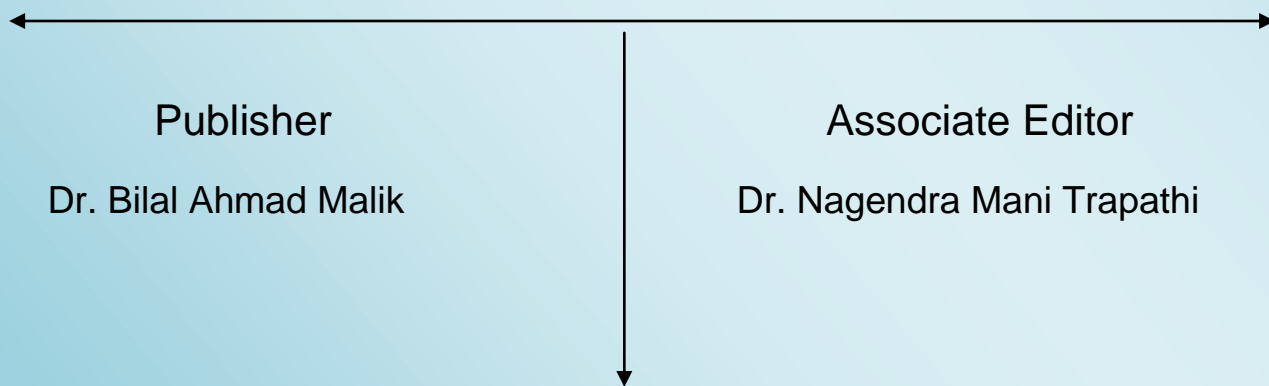


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A STUDY ON SOCIAL AWARENESS AMONG MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN MALDA DISTRICT

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INTRODUCTION

In India we come across a special type of social stratification in the form of caste region, religion, language, habitation etc. When the society is divided in social sub-groups based on habitual, 'Muslims' emerge as a typical group which is unique in character in many ways. It is revealed from census reports that in India more than 18 crores of people belong to officially named 'Muslims'. They have been suffering immensely from socio-economic conditions throughout several centuries.

Thus the constitution of India and various programmes in pursuance of the constitutional provision have sought to abolish caste system and improve socio-economic conditions of the Muslims, However, it has to be noted that despite all these programmes for Muslims, even after 60 years of independence the situation has not improved significantly. These clearly indicate the constitutional provision or welfare measures and financial allocation for Muslims cannot create any magic to change then" socio-economic conditions. These people are lagging behind in respect of educational, political, socio-economic and environmental progress in almost: all parts of India. There are many reasons for the poor rate of development of Muslim people. One of the most important issues is that there are not aware about the different facilities for them and systems of life. It is a common experience that Muslim people do not show adequate interest about education of their children due to poor economic conditions, but this problem could be solved with the financial assistance. It is also found that most of the people of Muslim groups are not properly aware about the financial assistance, which they can get for education of their children. Keeping this in view the present study will be conducted on Muslim people of Malda District to estimate their awareness about education, politics and environment of the society.

Like many countries of the world, India adopted Western model of democracy without having socio-economic and cultural conditions conducive to its growth and working India declared her goals of polity in the preamble of her Constitution: Justice, Equality, Liberty, and Fraternity. The preamble of the Constitution of India begins with

the words: "We the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic and to Secular to all its citizens"⁴. The words, 'Socialist and Secular' were inserted by the Constitution Act, 1976; 5. According to Jawaharlal Nehru "Democracy has been spoken of chiefly in the past, as political democracy, roughly represented by every person having a vote. But a vote by itself does not represent very much to a person who is down and out, to a person, let us say, who is starving or hungry. Political democracy, by itself, is not enough except that it may be used to obtain a gradually increasing measure of economic democracy, equality and the spread of good things of life to others and removal of gross inequalities"⁶. He was aware that political democracy could succeed only along with economic and social democracy.

Education, obviously a powerful vehicle bringing about change, a panacea of all evils and a potent weapon for prevention plays a central role in the society. The role of the education in traditional societies was largely confined to cultural accomplishment. In the context of development of modern science and technology, which are being used as tools of qualitative change in human lives, education has come to be acknowledged as a tool of human development and empowerment. 34 In the context of transformation of a traditional society into a modern one, the center of authority shifts from the known-information systems to formal systems which are supposedly based on the principles of equity and justice. The weaker sections belonging to Muslim Minority who have been at the lowest rung of the ladder of development have a genuine difficulty in understanding a assimilating the rationale and modus operand of this transformation, functioning of the formal modern institutions and class character of the people who may be occupying a commanding position in the new system. They get seriously handicapped on account of this ignorance. Literacy and education provide a key to such understanding: they also help in demystifying and demythologising the aura of false consciousness, which clouds our mind and tends to perpetuate the unjust and inequitable system. In this sense, they become important tools of liberation of the weaker sections of the society while simultaneously working for their identification with the State and National mainstream.

Statement of the Problem: Hence the researcher has decided the topic of the present study as A Study on Social Awareness among Muslim community in Malda District.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The following objectives were laid down for the study:

- i. To know the degree of educational awareness of Male and Female people under Muslim community.
- ii. To estimate the educational awareness of Urban and Rural Muslim people in the district of Malda
- iii. To know the degree of Environmental Awareness of Male and Female people under Muslim community of Malda District.
- iv. To estimate the Environmental Awareness of Urban and Rural Muslim people in the district of Malda.
- v. To know the degree of Environmental Awareness of Male and Female people under Muslim community of Malda District.
- vi. To estimate the Environmental Awareness of Urban and Rural Muslim people in the district of Malda.
- vii. To estimate the Socio-economic Awareness of Male and Female People of Muslim community of Malda District.
- viii. To know the degree of Socio-economic Awareness of Urban and Rural people under Muslim community of Malda District.
- ix. And finally to estimate the social awareness among Muslim Community of Malda district.

HYPOTHESES:

H₀₁ :- There will be no significant difference of Educational Awareness between the Male and Female people of Muslim Community in Malda district.

H₀₂ :- There will be no significant difference of Educational Awareness between Rural & Urban people of Muslim Community in Malda district.

H₀₃ :- There will be no significant difference of Environment Awareness between Male and Female People of Muslim Community in Malda District.

H₀₄ :- There will be no significant difference of Environmental Awareness between Rural & Urban people of Muslim community in Malda District.

H₀₅ :- There will be no significant mean difference of Political Awareness between Male and Female People of Muslim Community in Malda District

H₀₆ :- There will be no significant mean difference of Political Awareness between Rural & Urban People of Muslim Community in Malda District.

H₀₇ :- There will be no significant mean difference of Socio-economic Awareness between Male and Female People of Muslim community in Malda District.

H₀₈ :- There will be no significant mean difference of Socio-economic Awareness between Rural & Urban People of Muslim Community in Malda District.

H₀₉ :- There will be no significant mean difference of Social Awareness between Male and Female people of muslim community in Malda District.

H₀₁₀ :- There will be no significant mean difference of Social Awareness between Rural & Urban people of muslim community in Malda District.

POPULATION AND SAMPLE:

All the Muslim People live in the district of Malda were considered the population of the study. But it was not possible to carry out study with the total population. Hence it was necessary to select the representative samples for the study. To make the study effective 100 number of Muslim people (both 50 Male 50 female, 25 male +25 female urban and 25 male +25 female rural) from the target population were selected as sample.

TOOLS USED IN THE STUDY:

The following tools were used in this study:

- (i) Educational Awareness scale.
- (ii) Political Awareness scale.
- (iii) Socio-economic Awareness scale and
- (iv) Environmental Awareness scale.

Reliability of the tools:

No standardized, alternative or parallel from the awareness scale was available for testing the reliability and validity of the constructed scales, hence to estimate the reliability of the scales, test and re-test method was adopted. In this context the scale was re-administered after 15 days on the same group of muslim minority people of urban and rural parallel to the sample group. Scoring was done on the responses of both the situation and the co-efficient of correlation between two sets of score was calculated. The result indicates the high reliability co-efficient for the awareness scale.

Validity of the tools:

To estimate the validity of the scale, experts' judgment was taken into account. The sets of statements were presented before the experts for finalization of the scale. According to the experts' judgment the scale was considered as the valid one for the purpose

Table-A

Area of Awareness	Co-efficient of correlation	Remarks
Education	0.81	Highly reliable
Political	0.83	Highly reliable
Socio-economic	0.85	Highly reliable
Environmental	0.78	Highly reliable

COLLECTION OF DATA:

The investigator collected response sheets from different situations. In case of village records door-to-door investigation was made. But in case of data related to Awareness, response sheets were collected and these were scrutinized and evaluated with the help of prefixed norms. Three point rating scale was used to transform qualitative data to I quantitative scores. After receiving data, these were tabulated according to the objectives |of the study.

Following sets of data were collected by the investigator to satisfy the objectives of the study.

1. Educational Awareness scores of 50 Muslim people (Scores of 25 Male and 25 Female, Urban)
2. Educational Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (Scores of 25 male and 25 Female, Rural)
3. Political Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (Scores 25 Male and 25 Female, Urban)
4. Political Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (Scores 25 Male and 25 Female, Rural)
5. Socio-economic Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (score 25 Male and 25 Female, Urban)
6. Socio-economic Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (score 25 Male and 25 Female, Rural)
7. Environmental Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (scores 25 Male and 25 Female, Urban)
8. Environmental Awareness scores of 50 Muslim People (score 25 Male and 25 Female, Rural)

ANALYSIS WITH INTERPRETATION OF DATA:

In this stage the researcher tested the statistical hypothesis with the help of the parametric statistics such as 't'- test because it would be more applicable is comparing group whether it was of uniform size otherwise there might statistical error. The investigator also realized that the sampling design used for data collection does not follow Principle of randomization in scientific manner.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to H_{01}

Table -1, t - test for measuring either mean significant or insignificant on Educational Awareness of the Male and Female people of muslim community of Malda District .

Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significant
Educational Awareness	Male	25	73.16	19.92	48	0.29	NS
	Female	25	66.8				

From the above table, the value of $t = 0.29$ and the critical value of t with 48 degrees of freedom at 0.05 level of significance is 2.01. Our calculated value of $t - 0.29$ is less than the critical table value 2.01 and hence it is

not significant. There for the null hypothesis cannot be rejected. So we conclude that there is no significant mean difference of Educational Awareness between Male and Female of Muslim Community of Malda District.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to Ho₂

Table - 2, t-test for measuring either mean significant or insignificant on Educational Awareness of the Urban Rural people of muslim community of Malda District

Variables	Strata	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significant
Educational Awareness	Urban	50	70.6	2.98	98	3.79	Sig.
	Rural	50	59.98				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 3.79$ and the table value oft- with 98 df. at 5% level of significance is 1.98. The calculated value of t-is grater then the table value and hence it is significant and null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore we conclude that there is significant mean difference between Urban and Rural People of Muslim Community OF Malda District. This implies that the Urban People are more Aware than Rural People.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to Ho₃

Table- 3 t-test for measuring either mean, significant or in significant on Environmental Awareness of the Male and Female people of muslim community of Malda District.

Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significance
Environmental	Male	25	72.56	19.70	48	0.19	NS
	Female	25	68.8				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 0.19$ and the critical table value of t-with 48 df at 0.05 level of significance is 2.01. The calculated value of $t = 0.19$ is less than the critical value

oft- 2.01. And hence if is not significant. Therefore the null hypothesis cannot be rejected. So, there is no significant mean difference between Male and Female Muslim Community of Malda District.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to Ho₄

Table 4 :- t-test for measuring either mean significant or insignificant on Environment Awareness of the Urban and Rural people of muslim community of Malda Distric

Variables	Strata	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significance
Environmental	Urban	50	72.28	8.27	98	2.45	S
	Rural	50	52				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 2.45$ and the critical value of t with 98 df of 0.05% level of significance is $= 1.98$. The calculated value $t = 2.45$ is greater than table value 1.98 and hence it is significant. Therefore the null hypothesis is rejected. So we can conclude that there is significant mean difference in the measure of Environmental Awareness between Urban and Rural People of Muslim Community. This implies that the Urban People are more Aware than Rural People of Muslim Community of Malda District

Analysis of Data Pertaining to Ho₅

Table 5 - t-test for measuring either mean significant or insignificant on political Awareness of the Male and Female People of Muslim Community of Malda District.

Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significance
Political Awareness	Male	25	76.12	25.04	48	0.68	NS
	Female	25	58.92				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 0.68$ and the critical value of t with 48 df at 0.05 level of significance is -2.01 . The calculated value of $t = 0.68$ is less than the critical value of $t = 2.01$.

and hence it is not significant and the null hypothesis cannot be rejected. So, we can conclude that there is no significant mean difference in the measure of P. A between Male and Female people of Muslim Community of Malda District..

Analysis of Data Pertaining to Ho₆

Table – 6 t-test for measuring either mean significant or insignificant on P. A of the Urban and Rural people of muslim community of Malda District.

Variables	Strata	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significance
Political Awareness	Urban	50	69.02	1.63	98	8.44	Sig
	Rural	50	55.25				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 8.44$ and the critical table of $-t$ with 98 df at 0.05 level of significance = 1.99 Here the calculated value is greater than the table value, so it is significant and the null hypothesis cannot be accepted. So we can conclude that there is significant mean difference in the measuring Political Awareness between Urban and Rural People of Muslim Community of Malda district..

Analysis of Data Pertaining to Ho₇

Table 7:- t-test for measuring either mean significant or in significant on Socio-economic Awareness of the Male and Female people of muslim community of Malda District.

Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significant
Socio-economic Awareness	Male	25	84	22.98	48	0.17	NS
	Female	25	80				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 0.17$ and the critical table value of t with 48% at 5% level of significance = 2.01. Here the calculated value is less than the table value, so it is not significant and the null hypothesis cannot be rejected and we said that there is no significant mean difference in the measuring of Socio-economic Awareness between Male and Female People of Muslim Community of Malda District.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to H_{08}

Table 8 - t-test for measuring either mean significant or in significant on the measuring of SEA is Urban and Rural People of Muslim community of Malda District.

Variables	Strata	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significant
Socio-economic Awareness	Urban	50	92	15.32	98	2.08	S
	Rural	50	60				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 2.08$ and the critical value of t with 98 df. at 5% level of significance = 1.99. Here the calculated value is greater than the table value so it is significant and the null hypothesis cannot be accepted and we said that there is significant mean difference between urban and Rural People on the measuring of Socio-economic Awareness of Muslim Community.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to H_{09}

Table 9 –t-test for measuring either mean significant or insignificant on Social Awareness of the Male and Female people of Muslim Community of Malda District.

Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significant
Social	Male	25	56.02	15.07	48	0.49	NS
	Female	25	48.7				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 0.49$ and the critical value of t with 48 df at 0.05 level of significance is $= 2.01$. Which is greater than the calculated value, so null hypothesis is accepted and hence it is not significant. So, we said that there is no significant mean difference in the measure of Social Awareness between Male and Female People of Muslim Community of Malda District.

Analysis of Data Pertaining to H_{010}

Table- 10 - t-test for measuring either mean, significant or insignificant on Social Awareness of the Urban and Rural People of Muslim Community Of Malda District.

Variables	Strata	N	Mean	SED	df.	t	Level of Significant
Social Awareness	Urban	50	71.2	18.94	98	1.68	NS
	Rural	50	51				

From the above table we found that the calculated value of $t = 1.68$ and the critical value of t with 48 df at 5% level of significance $= 2.01$, here the calculated value is less than the table value so, it is not significant and the null hypothesis cannot be rejected and we said that there is no significant mean difference in the measuring of Social Awareness between the Urban and Rural People of Muslim Community of Malda District.

FINDING AT A GLANCE:

Following findings were drawn on the basis of analysis of data to verify the objectives of the study:

- I. Result revealed that Muslim people on the study area are Aware of Education, Politics, Socio-economic condition and present environmental situations as their average Awareness scores exceeded the cutting point score of below and above Awareness
- II. Analysis of data indicates that the Muslim people are not properly aware on the four dimensions under study.
- III. In case of Muslim Male and Female groups it was found that the both groups are aware of Education, Politics, Socio-economic Condition and environmental situations but male and female groups of Rural

Area do not have proper Awareness of four dimensions under study.

- IV. It was found that there is no significant difference of Education Awareness between Male and Female people of Muslim Community.
- V. It was found that there is quite difference between Male and Female People of Rural and Urban area.
- VI. Analysis of data indicates that there is significant difference between Urban and Rural People of Muslim community of Malda district in the measuring of Educational Awareness.
- VII. Analysis of data indicates that there is no difference between male and female People in the measuring of Environmental Awareness.
- VIII. It was found that there is no difference in the measure of Political Awareness between Male and Female people of Muslim Community of Malda District.
- IX. It was found that there is no significant difference between Male and Female People in the measuring of Socio-economic Awareness.
- X. It is found from the result that there is no significance difference of Social Awareness between Male and Female people of Muslim Community of Malda District.
- XI. It is found that there is no significant mean difference in the measuring of Social Awareness between the Urban and Rural People.

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