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**RECOUNTING THE PROVERBS OF
KOCH RAJNANSHISOCIETY WITH
REFERNCE TO WESTERN ASSAM.**

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Introduction:

Proverbs are popular sayings, passed from generation to generation that contain advice or express a basic truth about human behavior. They are usually short and easy to remember often because they make use of rhyme, alliteration, parallel structure or strong imagery. They are metaphorical rather than literal and refer to universally familiar subjects or situations.

Proverbs are the important part of folklore. They are the reflection of folk culture. Proverbs act as folk wisdom giving general advice to the common folk about how to act and to live. They reflect the cultural values and physical environment from where they arise. Proverbs are used to support arguments, to provide lessons and instructions and to stress shared values. Proverbs fulfill the human need to summarize experiences and human observations into nuggets of wisdom that provide ready-made comments on personal relationships and social affairs. They serve people well in oral speech and the written word coming to mind almost automatically as a prefabricated verbal unit.

Koch Rajbanshis of Assam have been playing a very significant role in the formation and development of Assamese society and culture since time immemorial. Western part of Assam is a cultural hub of Koch Rajbanshi or Goalparia culture. Majority of Koch Rajbanshis are living in this region and

4. M[^]anushe bey[^]a pay ch[^]ari kh[^]aba , Allay bey[^]a pay m[^]ari niba. (If a man dislikes a person does not invite for feast, and God dislikes takes away the life.)

5. Naram m[^]atit bil[^]ay h[^]age . (The cat defecates on the soft earth)

6. Alpo pais[^]a j[^]ar , gheg[^]a b[^]agun t[^]ar. (One who has little money can buy a crippled bringal.)

7. [^]adar bep[^]arir ki j[^]ah[^]ajer khabar? (Why ginger sellers seek information of a ship.)

8. Jami kino m[^]aj khal , kany[^]a ano m[^]ao bh[^]al. (You buy a land having deep place in middle portion and marry a girl whose mother's nature is good.)

9. J[^]at iss[^]ay p[^]at , h[^]ari iss[^]ay bh[^]at . (The leaves show the species and the quantity of cooked rice show according to hari- the cooking vessel.)

10. Nadi dekhi kari ch[^]an , p[^]atra dekhi beti d[^]an. (Bathing is done observing the done, and daughter is handed over judging the nature of man)

Proverbial phrase: Proverbial phrases are most interesting variety of conventional sayings and transmitted by tradition. Proverbial phrase are being made every day from beliefs, customs, and practices .they are rarely limited in their use to a particular region. There are a fair number of such proverbs used day to day life in Koch Rajbanshi society. Some of them are –

1. Joker mukhat chun, (Lime in the mouth of leech)

2. Bh[^]aja dali gaja, (To grow dried peas)

3. Macher tele mach bhaja, (To fry a fish with its own fats)

4. Dhurta siyal. (A cunning fox)

5. Khabar janle chaule chira, Bashiba paille matiye pira . (One who knows how to eat, he can take rice as chira, and if one knows how to sit the earth is like a pira)

6. Mao ganne ch[^]ao, Khuta ganne n[^]ao. (Children are brought up according to mothers nature, a boat is made according to the size of the long.)

7. K[^]ak koim kalai chor Chabare m[^]athat ek bo[^]ja. (To whom I will mark out as thieves of black gram, all are having one bundle on their heads)

8. Brek nohoa gari Bhatar nahoa tiri .

(A car without a break, a woman without a husband)

9. Baper mathat bhanga duli Betay beray saikel chori. (There is a broken duli , a barrel like basket , on the head of the father and the son wanders riding on the bicycle .)

10. Upakar[^]ak ajagare kh[^]ay. (The snack bites its benefactor)

11. Apon bh[^]ale jagat bh[^]al . (If you are good, the world is good for you)

12. Jei p[^]apat kh[^]ay , Oi p[^]atate h[^]age . (He defecates in the same place in which he eats.)

13. Bhale phay bhalak , jabare pay khalak . (Good people usually get good people, the rubbish gets only the pit)

14. H[^]ause n[^]ari kuja bh[^]atary . (Luxurious woman but her husband is hump-backed)

15. Bhura k[^]aler beta chuma ch[^]atai sar. (The son born in old age is just for kissing.)

16. Mullah daur masjidat . (The run of mullah only runs upto mosque.) In addition to these proverbs there are many unspecified proverbs which are used in different times in different situations.

Conclusion:

The use of proverbs is not peculiar to one community; in fact, it is a universal phenomenon meant to achieve certain goals that are closely related to societal cohesion. Proverbs are deeply rooted in every society so much that almost everybody who knows how to speak his/her indigenous language is a living carrier of proverbs. Proverbs exist in many forms across cultures and languages and are used to convey messages which in turn, guide and control the socio-cultural aspects of those who understand them. Therefore, the role of proverbs as a metaphorical use of language cannot be overstressed in any discourse. Proverbs are used to inform, warn, reprimand, counsel and more often than not, to strengthen communal bonds among users of any language. Koch Rajbanshis believes in the tradition of proverbs since they use them in their day-to-day activities. In fact, it is a common practice among the Koch Rajbanshi people that where communication is to go smoothly, whether serious or casual, proverbs happen to be the vehicle used to convey ideas and thoughts across to other people.

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Irrigation Potential & Achievements in Assam

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Abstract

The Irrigation Department along with Assam State Minor Irrigation Development Corporation (ASMIDC) Ltd. has achieved an irrigation potential of 8.82 Lakh Hectares upto March 2015. Of this, 2.73 Lakh Hectares have been achieved under Major /Medium Irrigation Sector from 15 No. of completed projects and 5 No. of ongoing projects and 6.09 Lakh Hectares under Minor Irrigation Sectors from 1425 No. of completed Minor Irrigation Schemes and from some of 1390 ongoing Minor Irrigation Schemes. In practice Irrigation Deptt. has created 7.32 lakh hectare Irrigation potential (neglecting the figure created by ASMIDC which has no existence in the field). The total achievement is around 27.11% of the State's Ultimate Irrigation Potential of 27.00 Lakh Hectares. The total achievement is around 32.66% of the State's Ultimate Irrigation Potential of 27.00 Lakh Hectares.

Key-Words : NABARD, SCSP, CADWM.

The Irrigation Department of Assam has achieved an irrigation potential of 8.82 lakh hectares upto March 2015 that includes the potential created by ASMIDC (1,49,205 Ha) merged with Irrigation Department. But in reality the potential created by ASMIDC have no existence in the field as they are of short lived nature (LLP & STW). Accordingly in practice, potential created by Irrigation Department is 7,32,599 Ha neglecting the figure created by ASMIDC.

With limitation on natural resources such as land and water and delay suffered in the implementation of major and medium irrigation projects, largely due to problem of land acquisition and resistance due to insufficient consultation with the beneficiaries and affected population, horizontal expansion of the irrigated agriculture is becoming more challenging. The most severe problems facing in the irrigation sector are the increasing cost of new schemes, the huge backlog of incomplete schemes. More over low fund allocation in repairing and maintenance head that needed for proper maintenance and operation of large scale canal system that are in poor condition due to prolonged use and age old conditions, wide gap created between actual and desirable performance of irrigation sector. However efforts are on to mitigate the problem with enhanced budget provision both in respect of Capital expenditure and maintenance and repairing head of Account to revive sustainability of irrigated agriculture.

14. **Irrigation Schemes Powered by Solar Energy** : To combat the erratic power supply situation a pilot Deep Tube Well scheme powered by Solar Energy at Borlah near Hajo has been taken up with a target of 30 Ha. of Irrigation potential. Proposal has been formulated to take up some irrigation schemes powered by solar energy for hassle free operation.
15. **Revival of Lost Potential** : 89,231 Ha. of lost Irrigation Potential have been restored by reviving 11 Nos. of partially operated Major / Medium Irrigation Projects. Another 799 Nos. defunct Minor Irrigation Schemes have been put into operation reviving a lost potential of 1,56,128 Ha since 2006-07.
16. **Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM)**: For better irrigation Management, and to improve Irrigation efficiency, active participation of farmers is necessary which is attained through PIM by formation of Water User's Association (WUA) from the beneficiary members. The WUA will be responsible for Operation & Maintenance of the schemes. In Irrigation Department altogether 1096 nos. of Water User's Association has been formed till 31-03-2015 out of which 582 are registered and 513 are unregistered. The process of handing over of the schemes to WUA for Operation & Maintenance has already been started and 170 nos. of schemes handed over to WUA.

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বদালি দাস

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আৰ্হি অপনয়ন

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দীপশিখা

একাদশ বর্ষ, সংস্কৃতি বিশেষ সংখ্যা

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পশ্চিম অসমৰ কোচ-ৰাজবংশী লোক সমাজত প্রচলিত খেল-ধেমালি : এটি অধ্যয়ন

তৰুণ চন্দ্ৰ ৰায়

অবতৰণিকা :

খেল-ধেমালি হ'ল আনন্দ-উল্লাসৰ মাজেৰে শাৰীৰিক, মানসিক উৎকৰ্ষৰ এটা এবাব নোৱাৰা দিশ। ই পিছত প্ৰতিযোগিতালৈ পৰ্যবসিত হয়। এই প্ৰতিযোগিতা দুটা দল বা দুজন ব্যক্তিৰ মাজত হোৱা আনন্দ ক্ষণ। সাংসাৰিক কৰ্ম ব্যস্ততাই মানুহক আনন্দ দিয়ে। এই কৰ্ম ব্যস্ততাত থাকিও প্ৰত্যেকজন সামাজিক প্ৰাণীয়ে আজৰি সময়ত নিজকে খেল-ধেমালিত লিপ্ত কৰাব বিচাৰে। ইয়াৰ পৰা যি আনন্দ পায় সেই আনন্দই প্ৰত্যেকজনৰ হৃদয়ত থকা কদৰ্ঘভৰা মনক মুক্ত কৰায়।

শক্তিবান বা সুস্থাস্থ্যবান ব্যক্তিয়েহে খেল খেলে। দুৰ্বল বা ৰুগীয়া ব্যক্তি এজনে কেতিয়াও খেল-ধেমালি কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম নহয়। খেল-ধেমালিয়ে এজন ব্যক্তিকে লগতে একোটা জাতিৰ শৌৰ্য-বীৰ্য কঢ়িয়াই আনিব পাৰে। খেলৰ জৰিয়তে একো একোজন ব্যক্তিয়ে নিজৰ শাৰীৰিক শক্তি-সামৰ্থ্য কিমান, তাক আনৰ সন্মুখত প্ৰদৰ্শন কৰাব পাৰে।

পশ্চিম অসমৰ কোচ-ৰাজবংশীসকলৰ মাজত

প্রচলিত খেল-ধেমালি :

অসমৰ একেবাৰে পশ্চিম প্ৰান্তত অন্যান্য জনগোষ্ঠীৰ লগতে লেখত ল'বলগীয়া এটা জনগোষ্ঠী হ'ল- কোচ-ৰাজবংশীসকল। এওঁলোকৰ লোক সমাজত প্ৰাচীন কালৰে পৰা বিভিন্ন প্ৰকাৰৰ খেল-ধেমালি চলি আছিল। কিছুমান খেল-ধেমালি কালৰ গৰ্ভত বিলুপ্ত হৈছে আৰু কিছুমান খেল পৰম্পৰাগত ভাবে এতিয়াও প্ৰচলিত হৈ আছে। জনগোষ্ঠীটোৰ মাজত প্ৰচলিত খেল-ধেমালিসমূহৰ লিংগ, স্থান, ঋতু, কাল পাত্ৰভেদে বিভিন্ন প্ৰকাৰৰ থকা দেখা যায়। সাধাৰণতে খেল-ধেমালিসমূহ ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী, পুৰুষ-মহিলা নিৰ্বিশেষ সকলোৰে খেলে তথা আনন্দ উপভোগ কৰে। তলত এই সম্পৰ্কে এটি চমু আলোচনা আগবঢ়োৱা হ'ল।

লিংগ অনুসৰি :

খেল-ধেমালি সমূহ প্ৰকৃততে ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী উভয়ে একেলগ হৈ খেলা দেখা যায়। কিন্তু ইয়াৰ

লেখক স্বামী যোগানন্দগিৰি মহাবিদ্যালয়, শক্তি আশ্ৰমৰ অসমীয়া বিভাগৰ সহকাৰী অধ্যাপক

❶ দীপশিখা

পৰিচালনা কৰি থাকে। দলিয়াই দিয়াৰ সময়ত দুয়ো দলে পৰিচালকৰ পিনে নোচোৱাকৈ কিছুদূৰ আঁতৰত গৈ হুৰাচ হুৰাচ কৈ চিএৰি থাকিব লাগে। পৰিচালকজনে যেতিয়া হৈছে বুলি ক'ব, তেতিয়াহে দৌৰি আহি দলিয়াই দিয়া গুটিবিলাক বিচাৰি আনিব লাগে। ইয়াতো এটা কথা মন কৰিবলগীয়া যে, দুটা গাঁত দুটা দলে ভগাই ল'ব লাগে কোনটো কাৰ বুলি। ক'ত ক'ত দলিয়াই দিছে সেই গুটি বিচাৰি আনি নিজৰ গাঁতত জমা দিব লাগে। বিচাৰি আনোতে কঢ়া যুজ লাগে। কেৱল কাঢ়ি আনি পোনপটীয়াকৈ কোনে আগত জমা দিব পাৰে। ই প্ৰতিযোগিতামূলক খেল। যিটো দলে কমকৈ জমা দিব পাৰে বিপৰীত দলে জিকাৰ নিয়ম। অৰ্থাৎ কম জমা দিব পৰা দলটোৱে হৰাৰ নিয়ম।

ষোল্ল পাতি খেল :

এই খেলো দুজন ব্যক্তিৰ মাজত হোৱা মগজুৰ প্ৰতিযোগিতামূলক খেল। ইয়াৰ উপাদান হ'ল— কচুৰ ঠাৰিৰ টুকুৰা বা শিলগুটি আদি। এই খেল খেলোতে মাটিত আঁচ বা দাগ পাৰি লোৱা হয়। সেই আঁচত ষোল্লটা গুটিৰে খেলা হয়। এজনে আনজনৰ গুটি খোৱাৰ নিয়ম হ'ল— প্ৰথম জনৰ গুটিৰ পিছত যদি দ্বিতীয় জনৰ গুটি থাকে, তাৰ পিছত যদি অইন গুটি নাথাকে, তেন্তে সি সেই গুটি নিজৰ কৰি উঠাই ল'ব পাৰে বা খাব পাৰে। গুটিবিলাক খোৱাৰ নিয়ম হ'ল দাগে দাগে আৰু পোনকৈ থকা গুটিকহে খাব পাৰে বা গতি কৰি থাকিব পাৰে। প্ৰথমজনে খোৱাৰ পিছত দ্বিতীয় জনৰ পাল পৰে। এইদৰে খেলি খাই খাই শেষ যিজনৰ আগে হয়, সিজনে হাৰি যোৱা বুলি কোৱা হয়। ষোল্লপাতিৰ দৰে ন পাতি, বিশ পাতি, এই দৰে স্থানবিশেষে বিভিন্ন খেল দেখা যায়।

ৰেডি খেল :

এই খেল সাধাৰণতে দুটা দলৰ মাজত খেলা হয়। ইচ্ছানুসৰি খেলা মানুহ বা 'খেলটু'ৰ সংখ্যা হ'ব পাৰে। খোলা খেলপথাৰত ডাঙৰকৈ আঁক বা দাগ পাতি লোৱা হয় ইয়াকে 'হদ' বুলি কোৱা হয়। সাধাৰণতে এটা দলত ছয়-সাত জনকৈ হ'লে ভাল। এই খেলৰ নিয়ম হ'ল আঁক বা ঘাইত বা হদত প্ৰথম দলৰ প্ৰত্যেকে থিয় দি থাকিব আৰু দ্বিতীয় দলে ঘাই বা শাৰীৰ মাজেদি পাৰ হৈ ওলাই যাব লাগে। যাতে প্ৰথম দলৰ কোনো এজনে দ্বিতীয় দলৰ সদস্যক চুব নোৱাৰে। যদি গোটেই ঘাই পাৰ হৈ যাব পাৰে, তেন্তে তাক 'পাক্কা' হোৱা বুলি কয়। দ্বিতীয় দলৰ এজন পাক্কা হ'লে আটাইকে প্ৰবেশ কৰিব দিব লাগে। সেই পাক্কাজন উভতি যদি গোটেই ঘাই পাৰ হৈ আহিব পাৰে, তেন্তে এক গল বা এক চান খোৱা বুলি কয়। আৰু যদি পাৰ হৈ আহোঁতে দ্বিতীয় দলৰ যি কোনো এজন চুব পাৰে, তেন্তে দ্বিতীয় দল মৰা বুলি কয়। তাৰ পিছতে দ্বিতীয় দলে ঘাই বা শাৰী পাতিব আৰু এইবাৰ প্ৰথম দলে পাৰ হৈ যাব। এইদৰে এই খেল চলি থাকে।

এই খেলৰ আৰু কিছুমান নিয়ম হ'ল— এটা ঘৰত তিনিজন একেলগে প্ৰবেশ কৰিব নোৱাৰে। যদি কৰে তাক তিনি তিনি গোলা বুলি কয় আৰু একেলগে এটা ঘৰত পাক্কা আৰু কাচা প্ৰবেশ কৰিব নোৱাৰে। যদি কৰে তাক পাক্কা কাচা মিসল বা 'পচ্চা' বুলি কয়। শাৰী পাতি থকাবিলাকে কোনে কাৰো শাৰীত বা 'হদৰে বাইৰা' যাব নোৱাৰে।

বম্বি খেল :

ই হ'ল দুটা দলৰ মাজত হোৱা প্ৰতিযোগিতা মূলক খেল। এই খেলৰ সদস্য সংখ্যা সাত-আঠ জনমান হ'লে

Status of Irrigation in Assam with Special Reference to Kokrajhar District

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Abstract

The development programmes for improvement of irrigation facility in Assam taken up under two broad heads, viz., Major & Medium Irrigation and Minor Irrigation. While the Irrigation Schemes are classified as Major, Medium and Minor, they are categorised as Surface Flow, Surface Lift (For Major / Medium and Minor) and Ground Water Lift (for Minor only).

Key Words : Food Crops, Land Area, Cropping Pattern

Assam is maintaining a diversified pattern of land utilisation. As per the pattern of utilisation, total area of the State may be divided into the following categories: (i) forest, (ii) land not available for cultivation, (iii) other uncultivated land excluding fallow land, (iv) fallow land, and (v) cropped land. The following table shows the pattern of land utilisation of Assam in details.

TABLE NO.1
PATTERN OF LAND UTILIZATION IN ASSAM (1951-1992)

Description of land and p.c. to reporting area	(in lakh hectares)				
	1950-51	1960-61	1970-71	1980-81	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5	6
Geographical area	88.20	78.52	78.52	78.52	78.52
Forest	28.2	25.56	21.15	19.84	19.84
(p.c. to reporting area)	(32.0)	(29.1)	(26.9)	(25.3)	(25.3)
Land not available for cultivation	30.85	29.92	21.81	19.76	19.72
(p.c. to total land)	(35.0)	(36.3)	(27.8)	(25.1)	(25.1)
Total fallow land	4.65	3.2	2.88	1.77	1.72
(p.c. to total land)	(6.1)	(4.8)	(3.7)	(2.3)	(2.2)
Land under cultivation	23.01	24.81	27.04	29.8	29.82
(p.c. to total land)	(26.0)	(31.6)	(34.4)	(38.0)	(38.0)
Uncultivated area	60.31	55.4	51.47	48.72	48.7
(p.c. to total land)	(70.0)	(70.3)	(65.6)	(62.0)	(62.0)
Cultivable waste land	3.8	2.07	1.8	1.07	1.04
(p.c. to total land)	(5.3)	(3.0)	(2.3)	(1.4)	(1.3)
Total Cropped area	N.A	18.13	23.21	27.06	27.06
(p.c. to total land)		(23.1)	(30.7)	(34.4)	(34.4)

FACTORS AFFECTING DISPARITIES IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF ASSAM: AN INTER-DISTRICT LEVEL ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

There are so many hurdles of development in a rural and backward economy like Assam. The rural development of such an economy has been affected by several factors including geographical and physiographical variables. The study like inter- district disparities in rural development of Assam which are caused by different factors is very important for policy implications regarding equitable development in the region in particular and rural development in general. The present study attempts to analyze the factors understandings inter- district disparities in rural development of Assam on the basis of secondary sources data at the time of 2011 census. The broad factors that the study has been taken into account are rural infrastructure, resource availability, government expenditure on rural development programmes and industrial and urban growth. Further, the study also wants to find out the significant factors that lead to disparities in rural development. From the results it has been found that resource availability factor came out to be highly significant factor among the factors in disparities in rural development of Assam.

Keywords: Disparities, Factors, Rural Development, Resource Availability, Significant

1. INTRODUCTION

Assam is a backward and rural economy having so many hurdles of development. In order to have rural development in particular and development in general the need of the hour is to improve the different development indicators across the region equally. The disparities in different developmental indicators like education, health, agricultural productivity, employment etc. across the rural regions of Assam leads inter- district disparities in rural development in the state. The spatial disparities in rural development in a rural economy like Assam are caused by several factors ranging from infrastructure, availability of natural resources, industrialization and

urbanization etc. along with different physiographical and geographical factors. The study like inter- district disparities in rural development of Assam which are caused by different factors is very important for policy implications regarding equitable development in the region in particular and rural development in general.

The present study attempts to analyze the factors understanding disparities in rural development and their extent in the different districts of Assam. Here, the study investigates the various factors influencing disparities in rural development of Assam on the basis of secondary data sources at the time of 2011 census which covers rural regions of 27 districts. Among the broad factors determining variations in rural development mention may be of various rural infrastructural facilities, resource availability, government expenditure on rural development programme and industrial and urban growth. Here, the rural infrastructure has been categorized into four indicators such as number of primary educational institutions, number of primary health centres, irrigation facilities and rural roads. Similar to rural infrastructure resource availability factor includes variables like average size of operational holding and access to land in the rural area. Again the study also wants to find out the significant factors that lead to disparities in rural development in particular and economic development in general.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND

The developmental disparities of an economy have been analyzed by various researchers. Choudhury (1992) made a study of inter-state and intra-state variations in economic development and standard of living. He stated that in order to understand regional variations in levels of economic development and disparities in the standard of living of the people of the different states one has to examine in detail the sources of growth and factors influencing growth and structure at the regional level. In the study, the author analyzed inter-state disparity in terms of overall measures of state domestic product (SDP) and household consumer expenditure which gives an idea of the economic behavior of the states and the level of living of the people. Wanmali and Islam (1995) analyzed spatial distribution of rural services in selected regions and find existence of economic /disparities along with demographic, functional and spatial characteristics of settlements among these regions. They further examine the changes in rural service provision in the context of decentralized service centre planning in India. Kurian (2000) found that inter-state economic and social disparities in India have been increasing in spite of various governmental measures to develop backward areas. The author investigated disparities in terms of demographic indicators, female literacy rate, state domestic product and poverty, development and non-development expenditure by state government, shares in plan outlay, investments, banking activities and infrastructure development. He found that accelerated economic growth since the early 1980's with increased participation by the private sector

appears to have aggravated regional disparities. There has been emerging a marked dichotomy between the forward and backward group of states. Agarwala and Hazarika (2004) examined inter-district development disparities in Assam. They build an analysis of the disparities in different sectors of the State economy such as agriculture, industry and basic infrastructure and services (BIS), through which an overall inter-district disparity can be made. The objective of their study is to focus the relatively more backward districts of this backward State, so that the planning authorities as well as State and Central Governments may adopt appropriate measures for developing the relatively backward districts in particular and the State of Assam in general. Sarkar (2009) presented an analysis of inter-district disparities in infrastructural development of West Bengal State. Through various statistical techniques like ranking, co-efficient of variation, principal component analysis/factor analysis and rotated factor matrix (Kaiser Varimax Method), he analyzed the inter-district variations in infrastructural development. The study found that there are sharp disparities among the districts of West Bengal.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the study are-

- a) To find out the factors and their extent in district disparities in rural development across the State of Assam.
- b) To depict the significant factors that lead to inter-district disparities in the rural development of the region.

4. RESEARCH QUESTION

Based on the above objectives the study wants to find out the answer to the research question that whether the resource availability factor has significant impact on disparities in rural development than the other factors like rural infrastructure, government expenditure on rural development programme and industrialization and urbanization.

5. HYPOTHESIS

The hypothesis undertaken for the study is such that inter-district disparities in rural development of Assam are unaffected due to the resource availability factor and it has not significant impact in reducing disparities in rural development of Assam.

6. DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

The study has been carried on the basis of secondary sources data for the census year 2011. The district level data of rural Assam have been compiled from different secondary sources like Census Report, 2011, Government of India, Statistical Hand Book, 2011, Directorate of

Economics and Statistics, Government of Assam and Assam Human Development Report, 2014 (Planning and Development Department, Government of Assam). Besides these the study also uses data from different books, journals and internet.

Subject to the availability of data the study has been taken into account some indicators to understand factors responsible for disparities in rural development of Assam. Broadly, these factors are divided into four heads as- rural infrastructure, resource availability, government expenditure on rural development programme and urbanization and industrialization. Here, the broad head rural infrastructure is a composite measure of four indicators viz., rural health infrastructure measured by number of primary health centres per lakh of rural population, education infrastructure measured by number of primary schools per lakh of rural population, irrigation infrastructure which is composed of percentage of irrigated area to net sown area and number of micro irrigation schemes per thousand hectares to the net sown area and rural roads measured by percentage of villages approached to rural paved roads. Similar to the rural infrastructure the resource availability has been categorized into two components- average size of operational holding and access to land which is derived from percentage of agricultural laborers to rural work force (main workers). The composite index of these two is meant for the resource availability index. The third probable factor is the urbanization and industrialization of different districts of Assam measured through a composite index of percentage of urban population to total population and district wise contribution of industry to gross district domestic product. The amount of government expenditure on rural development programmes per lakh of rural population for the year is added in order to find out index of government expenditure on rural development programmes.

In order to find out the effect of the various factors that leads to inter-district disparities in rural development of Assam the study fit a multiple regression model and simple correlation coefficient taking into account the factors as explanatory variables and rural development as dependent variable. Here, the variable rural development is computed as the composite index of four indicators viz, rural literacy index measured through rural literacy rate in the age group 7 years and above, rural health index as measured by simple average of rural child sex ratio and infant mortality rate, rural agricultural productivity measured by contribution of agriculture to district domestic product to net sown area of the region and rural employment which is computed through main workers as percentage of total population.

For sake of convenience of the study all the values of indicators have been standardized into a uniform value by converting into an index which has been used by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in construction of HDI (Human Development Index). The value of the index is defined as-

$$\text{Value of the index} = \frac{\text{Actual Value} - \text{Minimum Value}}{\text{Maximum Value} - \text{Minimum Value}}$$

Here, the value of the index lies between zero and one. Depending upon the value of the index the rural districts have been categorized into different rural development groups such as high, moderate, low and backward. If the value of the index is 0.751 and more then it is termed as high rural development (HRD). Again if the value of the index is 0.501 or more but less than 0.751 then the districts are termed as moderate rural development (MRD) region. For low rural development (LRD) to occur the value would be 0.251 or above but less than 0.501. Lastly, a region is termed as backward (B) if the value of the index is zero or more but less than 0.251.

7. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The district wise disparities in rural development of Assam have been shown in the Table 1.

Table 1: District wise Rural Development Index (IRD) of Assam, 2011

Districts	IRL ¹	IRH ²	IRAP ³	IRE ⁴	IRD*	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dhubri	0	0.845	0.104	0.248	0.299	LRD
Kokrajhar	0.338	0.519	0.355	0.578	0.448	LRD
Bongaigaon	0.451	0.824	0.599	0.212	0.522	MRD
Chirang	0.276	0.881	0.876	0.663	0.674	MRD
Goalpara	0.431	0.682	0.247	0.326	0.422	LRD
Barpeta	0.251	0.654	0.067	0.239	0.303	LRD
Nalbari	0.887	0.761	0.554	0.226	0.607	MRD
Baksa	0.562	0.745	1	0.711	0.755	HRD
Kamrup	0.766	0.772	0	0.504	0.511	MRD
Kamrup Metro	0.856	0.744	0.163	0.751	0.629	MRD
Darrang	0.252	0.328	0.104	0.266	0.238	B
Udalguri	0.371	0.837	0.041	0.836	0.521	MRD
Sonitpur	0.393	0.754	0.539	0.629	0.579	MRD
Lakhimpur	0.847	0.650	0.767	0.403	0.667	MRD
Dhemaji	0.669	0.456	0.553	0.723	0.600	MRD
Morigaon	0.458	0.597	0.181	0.443	0.420	LRD
Nagaon	0.594	0.723	0.231	0.231	0.445	LRD
Golaghat	0.834	0.701	0.411	0.914	0.715	MRD
Jorhat	1	0.687	0.357	0.857	0.725	MRD
Sibsagar	0.970	0.651	0.359	0.445	0.606	MRD

Dibrugarh	0.707	0.702	0.543	0.670	0.656	MRD
Tinsukia	0.396	0.722	0.650	0.896	0.666	MRD
Karbi-Anglong	0.462	0.656	0.509	0.451	0.520	MRD
Dima Hasao	0.641	0.686	0.311	1	0.660	MRD
Karimganj	0.865	0.799	0.699	0	0.591	MRD
Hailakandi	0.706	0.479	0.267	0.170	0.406	LRD
Cachar	0.882	0.444	0.415	0.370	0.545	MRD
Assam (Mean)	0.588	0.678	0.404	0.510	0.546	MRD
SD	0.256	0.131	0.256	0.265	0.134	
CV	43.54	19.39	63.48	52.00	24.54	

* RDI= (2+3+4+5)/4

Sources: Computed from,

Census of India, 2011, District Census Hand Book, Assam

Statistical Hand Book, 2011, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Assam

Vital Statistics of India, Based on the Civil Registration System, 2013,

Office of the Registrar General, India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Vital Statistics Division, Government of India

Column 6 is the composite index of rural development calculated through simple average of column 2, 3, 4 and 5 which are showing rural literacy index (IRL), rural health index (IRH), rural agricultural productivity index (IRAP) and rural employment index (IRE) respectively. From the column 6 of the table it has been found that there exist about 25 percent rural developmental variations across the different districts of Assam as per value of the CV (coefficient of variation). The rural development index for the overall state of Assam is found to be 0.546. Darrang is only one backward and least rural developed region among the 27 districts of Assam. Across the state of Assam seven districts such as Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Goalpara, Barpeta, Morigaon, Nagaon and Hailakandi have low rural development position contrary to the 18 moderate rural development areas viz, Bongaigaon, Chirang, Nalbari, Kamrup, Kamrup Metro, Udalguri, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Golaghat, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Karbi-Anglong, Dima-Hasao, Karimganj and Cachar. Further, the only one district Baksa has the category of high rural development.

The district wise values of the indices of different factors for disparities in rural development of Assam have been compiled in the Table 2.

Table 1: District wise values of the factors for disparities in rural development of Assam

Districts	Rural Infrastructure (IF)	Resource Availability (RA)	Government Expenditure (GE)	Urbanization and Industrialization(UI)
1	2	3	4	5
Dhubri	0.282	0.103	0.096	0.331
Kokrajhar	0.218	0.275	0.622	0.523
Bongaigaon	0.233	0.213	0.256	0.249
Chirang	0.255	0.401	0.556	0.307
Goalpara	0.242	0.275	0.189	0.230
Barpeta	0.354	0.473	0.124	0.426
Nalbari	0.370	0.459	0.188	0.314
Baksa	0.323	0.405	0.844	0.424
Kamrup	0.269	0.426	0	0.506
Kamrup Metro	0.253	0.536	0.072	1
Darrang	0.294	0.128	0.067	0.251
Udalguri	0.342	0.359	0.118	0.363
Sonitpur	0.152	0.485	0.136	0.291
Lakhimpur	0.142	0.596	0.360	0.240
Dhemaji	0.168	0.663	0.867	0.309
Morigaon	0.325	0.274	1	0.189
Nagaon	0.362	0.309	0.541	0.446
Golaghat	0.235	0.614	0.073	0.333
Jorhat	0.347	0.637	0.339	0.351
Sibsagar	0.297	0.752	0.361	0.173
Dibrugarh	0.200	0.746	0.164	0.105
Tinsukia	0.153	0.922	0.117	0.382
Karbi-Anglong	0.139	0.555	0.102	0.382
Dima Hasao	0.529	0.479	0.458	0.613
Karimganj	0.122	0.669	0.009	0.448
Hailakandi	0.288	0.463	0.015	0.513
Cachar	0.262	0.495	0.119	0.589
Assam (Mean)	0.265	0.471	0.289	0.381
SD	0.089	0.192	0.276	0.173
CV	33.58	40.76	95.50	45.41

Sources: Computed from,

Census of India, 2011, District Census Hand Book, Assam
Statistical Hand Book, 2011, Assam, Directorate of Economics and Statistics,
Government of Assam
Agricultural Census, 2010-11, Government of India
Minor Irrigation Census, 2006-07, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India

The extent of inter-district level disparities for the factors understanding rural development of Assam can be seen through the coefficient of variation (CV) of the different factors. The columns 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Table 2 show the different computed values rural infrastructure, resource availability, government expenditure on rural development programme and industrial and urban growth respectively. From the CV of the factors it is found that government expenditure on rural development programme has highest disparity having CV value 95.50 than the other factors such as urban and industrial growth, resource availability and rural infrastructure with CV values 45.41, 40.76 and 33.58 respectively.

Now, let us find out the effects of the different factors that lead to inter-district disparities in rural development of Assam. This can be shown by finding out the overall significance of the various factors upon dependent variable rural development. To identify the factors that significantly account for disparities in rural development across the different districts of Assam a multiple regression line has been carried out. The model used in the analysis is-

$$RD_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 IF_t + \beta_2 RA_t + \beta_3 GE_t + \beta_4 UI_t + U_t \text{----- (1)}$$

Where, RD_t is dependent variable implying rural development index of district t.

IF_t , RA_t , GE_t , and UI_t are explanatory variables implying rural infrastructure index, resource availability index, government expenditure on rural development programme index and urbanization and industrialization index of district t respectively.

β_0 , β_1 , β_2 , β_3 and β_4 are positive parameters and U_t is random disturbance term

t = 1, 2, 3 ----- 27 (for 27 districts of Assam in 2011)

Now, using the OLS method the multiple regression line (1) has estimated. The estimated regression line is obtained as -

$$RD_t = 0.220 + 0.072IF_t + 0.501RA_t + 0.139GE_t + 0.080UI_t + U_t \text{----- (2)}$$

Here, the results of the multiple regression analysis are shown in Table 3. It is found in the table that R^2 value is 0.535 which means there is an about 54 percent disparity in rural development of Assam as explained by the factors such as rural infrastructure, resource availability, government expenditure on rural development programme and urban and industrial growth. Again F value is found to be 6.325 which is highly significant at 1 percent level. Thus the overall fit of the model is a satisfactory one. From the table it is evident that t value for the resource availability factor is highly significant at one percent level. The t value for the constant term as well as the government expenditure on rural development programme are found respectively as 2.203 and 1.880 implying statistically significant. The coefficient of rural infrastructure and urbanization and industrialization though positive are not statistically significant. This non-significance of factors is not due to multicollinearity because the highest condition index is found as 12.511 (<20).

Table 3: Results of Multiple Regression Analysis of the Factors affecting Disparities in Rural Development of Assam, 2011

Explanatory variables/Constants	Co-efficient Values	Standard Error	t values	Sig.
Constant	0.220	0.100	2.203***	0.038
IF	0.072	0.243	0.296	0.770
RA	0.501	0.108	4.624***	0.000
GE	0.139	0.074	1.880***	0.073
UI	0.080	0.118	0.677	0.505
R^2	0.535			
F (4, 22)	6.325			0.002

*** implies highly significant

The Table 4 depicts the values of correlation coefficient and corresponding t values taking rural development as dependent variable and the factors as explanatory variables.

Table 4: Simple Correlation Coefficient between Rural Development and the Factors for Disparities in Rural Development of Assam, 2011

Factors/Explanatory Variables	Correlation Coefficient	t value (significant at two tailed)
IF	-0.120	0.552
RA	0.667**	0.000
GE	0.189	0.344
UI	0.065	0.748

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

RD: Dependent Variable

In the Table 4 it also found that resource availability came out to be highly significant at 1 percent level. The other three factors are come out as statistically insignificant. The coefficient value of rural infrastructure having the negative value depicts rural infrastructure components are yet to make positive impact in rural development in 2011.

From the above multiple regression and correlation coefficient analysis it is evident that in light of the hypothesis adopted in the research study that inter-district disparities in rural development of Assam are unaffected due to the resource availability factor and it has no significant impact in reducing disparities in rural development of Assam is not accepted. Rather for the alternative hypothesis that resource availability has significant impact in disparities in rural development of Assam is accepted. In 2011 resource availability along with government expenditure on rural development programme has significant impact in disparities in rural development of Assam and it has positive impact in rural development in the economy. The other factors though don't have significant impact they have positive relationship with rural development of Assam.

CONCLUSION

From the above analysis of factors affecting inter-district variations in rural development of Assam the factor resource availability has come out to be highly significant factor and it has high positive correlation with rural development. This means the size of operational holding and access to land is contributing a lot in rural development of Assam and the equitable distribution of it reduces disparities in rural development in a significant manner. Though government expenditure on rural development programme has some significant impact on disparities in rural development of Assam the other factors such as rural infrastructure and urbanization and industrialization have very least or indirect impact rural developmental disparities. Thus, it is necessary to increase the lagging factor in the particular region so that equitable distribution of the amenities relating to the concerned factor took place. In this regard the allocation of

components of resource availability and enhancement of government expenditure on rural development programme in different lagging districts is the need of the hour to reduce disparities in rural development of Assam to a certain extent. Again a more comprehensive study will be necessary for very backward as well as more difficult location areas.

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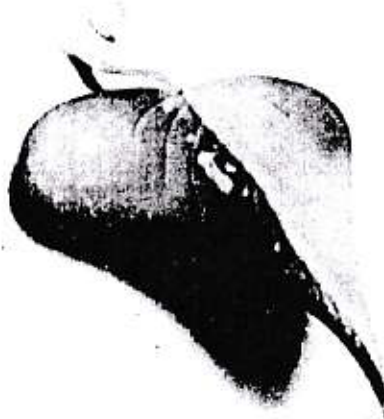


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Cry of women: A study on women characters in Mamoni Raisom Goswami's "The Moth-Eaten Howdah of the Tuskar".

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Abstract:

Women has been the prime focus of many writers down the centuries. Women studies has always been played a critical role in redefining the notion of society and helps in transcending former narrow formulations regarding the status of women. The practitioners of women's studies are found instrumental in playing a crucial role in making class and gender central to the analysis of women's oppression. Mamoni Raisom Goswami is one of the renowned Modern Assamese writer. She is a great poet, scholar, editor, critic and professor. She has many novels, poems and short stories to her literary cap. The Jyanpeeth and Sahitya Academy award winning Assamese litterateur showed her deep concern about the status of women in society in many contexts of her literary works. Her writings unveil the facts deeply rooted in social system of which women are made victims. As a feminist she raises questions on several issues of discrimination faced by

women in society like childhood of a girl, marriage life of women and pathetic widowhood of women in society. In her *Nilakanthi Braja* (1976), *Adha Lekha Dostavej* (2005), *The Moth Eaten of the Tuskar* (1988) she depicts the plight of Assamese women. The present paper deals with *The Moth Eaten Howdah Of The Tusker*, one of the most celebrated novels of Indira Goswami translated from original Assamese *Datal Hatir UneKhowa Hawdah* by the author herself in 2004. The novel is based on variety of social issues of mid-20th century and set in Post-independent period of South Kamrup. The novel has projected three major widow characters of Gossain family namely Giribala, Saru Gossaine and Durga. They are victims of the so called orthodox Brahmin society. They suffer a lot due to the long established orthodox social beliefs and practices laid down for widows in Assamese culture.

Key words: Women, society, suffering, widow.

Introduction:

Woman has been the focus of many literary works down the centuries. The writers come out from the bastion of prejudice now acknowledge the status of women in male-dominated society. Over the centuries women novelists have consistently been trying to portray female characters from different perspectives. Mamoni Raisom Goswami is the pioneer in this field of delineating the marginalized section of the Assamese society. As a feminist she has always focus on the issues of women. She portrayed the challenges women confronts at home as well as in their social interactions. She thus in a way tried to create an identity for her protagonist. Interactions.

The work of Indian women writers is significant in making society aware of women's demands, and in providing a medium for self-expression and, thus, re-writing the history of India.

Mamoni Raisom Goswami is one of the

protection from the men who would take her to her in-laws. She requests him to take her away from the society which is oppressing her. Mark is pleased by her courage and vulnerability but he is unable to take any decision which would jeopardise his life as a scholar and a missionary. When Giribala is discovered with Mark, it causes uproar and a ritual expiation is prescribed for the sin of getting involved with an outcast. A straw hut is built in the open field. Amidst chanting of purificatory mantra, they set fire to the shed with the instruction to Giribala that she should come out of it when the fire will engulf it. But even after the fire engulfs the shed, Giribala does not come out. In this way, by immolating herself, she prefers death instead of a life of bondage and humiliation. Her suicide is her final act of defiance against a system which grants no freedom to a widow. Smell of burning human body spreads over the banks of Jogoliya. This smell is not only the smell of burning Giribala's flesh but the smell of burning women's dreams and aspirations.

Conclusion:

As a woman writer, writing about the experiences of women, Indira Goswami has carved for herself a unique place in literature. She has brilliantly portrayed the women characters in the backdrop of a segregated and callous society in the Post Independent period. As a women novelist Indira Goswami has questioned the values, customs, and traditions of the Assamese Orthodox Brahmin society in particular and Indian society in general. She is a social critic. She raises her strong voice against the orthodox and conservative tradition of Hindu society. Indira Goswami has created such a society in her novel where women were marginalized to great extent, especially the widows. She has also thrown light on the fact that generation after generation the women were internalizing their marginalization and passively accepting their conditions as their fate. By creating the characters like Durga,

Giribala and Saru Gossainee, Goswami v
rethink about the age- old orthodox
exercised under the banner of religion an
other elements.

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'developing' to 'developed' all citizens of our country should support economic, environmental, political and social development of the country.

03

Psychological complexity of Hamlet's Character

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□□□

The typical tragic character of Shakespeare is, to some extent, an unusual type, possessing great complexity in mental make-up and personality – even to the extent of abnormality or pathological defects. It is seen that when Shakespeare wished to create a great character of tragedy, he made that character a psychological problem with conflicting elements of personality which provoke an inner conflict.

A Shakespearean tragic hero is an exceptional being – a person of high degree of public importance. The hero has one predominant passion or feeling. As Bradley puts it,

"A marked one-sidedness, a fatal tendency to identify his whole being with one interest, object, passion or habit or habit of the mind."¹

This is for Shakespeare the fundamental tragic trait. It contains the seed of the hero's ruin though it touches with it.

Hamlet is a character of extraordinary complexity and no simple formula can serve to solve his mystery. Hamlet has been marked with melancholia and indecisiveness. Shakespeare was aware of the melancholy man as outlined by Elizabethan psychologists and made use of them in portraying Hamlet. When we first meet Hamlet in the play, we see him mourning – mourning over his father's death:

But I have that within which passeth show;
These but the trappings and the suits of woe.

enslave him to this melancholy still more. The shock to his moral being comes with the sudden disclosure of his mother's true nature. She has remarried within a month of her husband's death, and she has remarried Hamlet's uncle, a man utterly contemptible and hateful in Hamlet's eyes. This experience brings to him a feeling of horror, then loathing, then despair of human nature. His whole mind is poisoned. He can never see Ophelia in the same light again: she is a woman and her mother is a woman. Now the condition has arisen under which Hamlet's highest gifts, his moral sensibility and his intellectual genius, become his enemies. A man with a blunt moral nature and with a lesser intellectual capacity would not have felt the revelation so keenly.

The tragic heroes of Shakespeare, be they King, Prince, Military General, or Thane, are endowed with psychological complexities – Hamlet is indecisive, melancholic, hesitant; Othello is rash, credulous and hasty. King Lear is rash and impulsive; and Macbeth is weak of will and ambitious. He has a marked obsession to act in a particular way. This obsession is the tragic of his character. It is this dominant tendency to act in a particular way which brings about his downfall. This dominant trait or flaw is fatal to him in the situation in which he is placed or the circumstances in which he was to act. If their situations are interchanged, there would be no tragedy at all. As the action proceeds all non-essentials are shed one after another, till the tragic protagonist becomes a symbolic figure and his struggle becomes the conflict of Good and Evil in the world.

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Protection And Promotion Of Human Rights: A Historical Overview

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Abstract: Laski has rightly observed, " Rights are those social conditions of life without which no man can seek himself to be at his best". Like rights, human rights are also very essential for the development of his personality. The concept of human rights as it is understood today has evolved gradually over the centuries. Although the concept of "Human Rights" is considered a modern phenomenon, the essence of human rights is as old as human civilization. Human rights seem to have emerged recently but the concept of human rights can be observed by the idea of man, as a gregarious animal, has lived in communities, clans, villages, families, towns, or nations, and presented in independent world members. Kautilya in his masterpiece "Arthashastra" has defined and described the human rights of war prisoners. Human rights were evolved as civil rights, political rights, personal rights, legal rights, natural or divine rights, economic and social rights in the ancient period. Hence, there is a variety of expression, like 'inherent rights', 'natural rights', 'inalienable rights', 'basic fundamental rights, which are interchangeable terms to express the rights that a human being possess.

Keywords: Human rights, gregarious animal, natural rights, fundamental rights.

Introduction:

The concept of human rights was first reflected in ancient Greece and Rome, where it was closely confined to the Pre-modern natural law doctrine of Greek stoicism. The Greek idea of divine law and freedom and the practice of Roman law are at the heart of today's ideas of human rights. During the 18th Century, the so-called Age of Enlightenment, growing confidence in human reason, and of course, the perfection of human affairs led it to become a more comprehensive one. John Locke in England, Montesquieu Voltaire and Jean Jacques Rousseau in France, and others supported human reason and also tried to prove the superiority of natural law. The concept of natural rights has influenced the English, French and American Revolutions in a wider manner. The practical examples of England's glorious revolution 1688 and the Bill of Rights in 1689 as well provided a

rationale for the wave of revolutionary agitation which influenced the West, most notably in North America and France. Certain historic documents like Pennsylvania Declaration (1776) American Declaration (1787) French Declaration (1789) reflected the intellectual milieu of the contemporary socio-political situations that have developed as a struggle against political absolutism. In the words of Maurice Cranston, it is evident that these struggles took place because the ill of absolutism promoted men to claim their rights which were denied to them. All those revolutions have contributed to the foundation of human rights as we find today. Henry David Thoreau was the first philosopher to have used the term "human rights" in his treatise; 'Civil Disobedience', which influenced Leo Tolstoy, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King to develop and propagate the concept of non-violent resistance to unethical governmental actions. Mahatma Gandhi said: "respect of one, equally applies to the whole universe. All mankind, in essence, are alike, what is, therefore, possible for one is possible for everybody." The curse of the Second World War led to the birth and recognition of the modern human rights movement in the global scenario. President Roosevelt's proclamation in 1941 the four freedoms of speech and expression, of belief, freedom from fear and want- as a universally acceptable set of standards, along with the works of different renowned NGOs were some of the substantial developments in this context.

But after the establishment of the United Nations in 1945, and the subsequent international concerns for the commitment of the protection of human rights widened the scope of this movement. A cornerstone of this post-war human rights regime was the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) that was adopted on 10th December 1948, which is commonly known as "Human Rights Day". The sources of this Declaration owe much to the English constitution. The post-war era emphasized the adoption of equality, liberty, and social justice as the significant cardinal principles of human rights. The first documentary use of the expression of human rights took place in UDHR and two other international covenants - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) of 1966 which came into force in 1976 with the consent and approval of the United Nations. Global recognition for the human rights movement grew during the 1970s when Amnesty International gained permanent observer status as an NGO at the United Nations. Its reports and Statement, and press releases about basic human rights gained respectful attention around the world. The U.N. Declaration 1948 was able to attract the attention of civil society organizations and Individuals in the third world to fight precious rights. Hence numerous civil society organizations (Human Rights Watch, Amenity International) emerged in Asia, Africa, and Latin America fighting against oppressive State and basic human rights; be it the right to life, right to free expression, right to work & better working conditions and host of similar rights. At last, we can say, Amnesty and many of its sister organizations inspired a shape the later course of civil liberties movements all over the world. Amnesty International was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its contribution to the cause of human rights. Thus the historical perspective highlighted the realities of man's struggle for rights that were found to be age-old struggles of mankind itself. The concept of human rights was in a rudimentary form in ancient times, informative stage in Middle Ages and had fully grown in the 20th Century with the formation of the United Nations. The U.N. Charter, however, was not a binding instrument, and merely stated the ideal which was to be later developed by different agencies and organs. The first concrete initiative by way of constituting the different human rights was initiated by the U.N. General Assembly in December 1948, by adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was sought to be followed by an International Bill of Rights which could be made legally valid and binding on the Covenanting Parties. After all, Universal Declaration operated merely as a Statement of ideals which was not of the nature of a legally binding covenant and had no machinery for its enforcement. The absence of that was intended to be removed by the U.N. General Assembly by adopting in December 1966, two Covenants for the observance of human rights: 1. The Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. 2. The Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

The objective of the study: Based on the secondary data the present study has been carried out with the following objectives:

- To highlight the importance of human rights in the present context based on historical perspective.
- To explore the different conditions responsible for the present status of human rights at the global level.
- To analyze the basic tenants of human rights that is essential for the fullest development of the people.

Methodology: The present study is primarily based on the secondary data available in the different available literature in the form of books, Research papers, published articles, and journals.

Literature Review:

Kamruzzaman, M et. al. (2015) analyzed the root cause of human rights violations of rural women very elaborately. It was found that due to lack of proper education and awareness level the human rights of women are found to be at stake.

Gautam, et.al (2000) explored the basic idea of human rights and their probable causes of violation, and it was studied in the paper that justice of the masses is directly related to the observance and maintenance of human rights of the people of a state.

Moyn , Samuel (2010) highlighted the historical perspectives of human rights and their present status in different countries. It was found in the paper that violations of human rights are observed mostly in the third-world countries and its solutions are to be studied very deeply.

Definition of Human Rights:

- UN Definition on Human Rights is to ensure that human beings will be able to fully develop and use human qualities such as intelligence, talent, and conscience and fulfill his or her spiritual and other basic needs.
- UDHR spells out "the basic civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all human beings should enjoy."
- Laski, " Rights are those conditions of social life without which no man can seek, in general, to be himself at his best"

Why human rights are important?

Human rights define the minimum standards essential for people to live with dignity and equality of status irrespective of any differences. Human rights ensure people the freedom to choose how they live, how they express themselves, and what kind of government they want to choose, among many other alternatives. Human rights also guarantee people the means essential to satisfy their basic needs, like food, housing, and education, so they can take full advantage of all opportunities. At length, by ensuring life, liberty, and security, human rights would protect people against all sorts' atrocities and abuses by individuals and groups who are found to be arbitrary.

Basic Tenants of Human Rights

- **Universal:** The rights belong to all people equally regardless of any type of status. All people are born free and equal in respect of dignity and rights regardless of differences.
- **Inalienable:** They may not be snatched away or transferred by any individual or govt. under any circumstances and People still have the opportunity to enjoy human rights even though their governments violate those rights.
 - **Interconnected:** Human rights are interconnected in a manner that fulfillment or violation of one right affects the fulfillment of all other rights.
- **Indivisible:** No rights can be treated in isolation and no single right is more important than others.
- **Non-Discriminatory:** No discrimination can be possible in fulfillment of human rights on grounds of race, religion, colour, age, nationality, or ethnic origin, sex, or any other status that can impair the enjoyment of fundamental freedom and human rights.

Ancient and Religious Sources of Human rights:

- The Hindu Vedas
- The Babylonian Code of Hammurabi(1775-1750) BC
- The Bible
- The Quran
- The Analects of Confucius

Brief History of evolution of Human rights:

The Cyrus Cylinder (539 B.C.): In 539 B.C., Cyrus the Great, the first king of ancient Persia, captured the city of Babylon and his next great actions that marked a major advance for mankind in the history of rights as he freed the slaves and declared that all people had the right to choose their religion, and he also established racial equality. These privileges and other legal provisions were recorded on a baked-clay cylinder in the Akkadian language with a cuneiform script. (<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/brief-history/>) (<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/brief-history/>)

Cyrus Cylinder, this ancient legal document has now been regarded as the world's first provision of human rights that is translated into all six official languages of the United Nations and its provisions had impacted deeply the first four Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. (<http://cyruscylinder2013.com/2013/04/the-cyrus-cylinder-eleanor-roosevelt-and-the-universal-declaration-of-human-rights/>)

The Magna Carta (1215):

The Magna Carta, or "Great Charter," was found to be the most significant early influence on the extensive historical process that led to the rule of constitutional law today in the European world. In 1215, after King John of England violated several ancient laws and customs prevailed at that time and his subjects forced him to sign the Magna Carta, which enumerates what later came to be known as a milestone for the evolution of human rights. Among them was the separation of church from governmental interference, the rights of all free citizens to own and inherit property, and to be protected from excessive taxes. It established the right of widows who owned property to choose not to remarry and established principles of due process and equality before the law. It also contained provisions forbidding bribery and official misconduct. Magna Carta is regarded as the most widely accepted important legal documents in the development of modern democracy; the Magna Carta played a crucial role in the struggle to establish individual freedom. (<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/brief-history/magna-carta.html>)

Petition of Right (1628)

The Petition of Rights is an important milestone in the emergence of human rights that was produced in 1628 by the English Parliament and sent to Charles I as a statement of civil liberties. The historic Petition of Rights, enacted and passed on 7th June 1628 which is an English constitutional Documents that procured special individual protections against the state, which is considered as an equal valued document with Magna Carta and the Bill of Rights 1689.. The Petition of Right put forwarded by Sir Edward Coke, was based upon earlier statutes and charters and emphasized on four principles:

- (1) No taxes may be levied without the consent of Parliament,
- (2) No subject may be imprisoned without valid cause shown (reaffirmation of the right of habeas corpus),
- (3) No soldiers may be quartered upon the citizenry, and

(4) Martial law may not be used in times of peace.

(<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/brief-history/magna-carta.html>)

United States Declaration of Independence (1776):

Thomas Jefferson, former president of America, authored the American declaration of Independence and on July 4, 1776, the United States Congress approved the Declaration of Independence. He composed the Declaration to give the formal explanation as to why Congress had voted on July 2 to achieve independence from Great Britain. Congress circulated the Declaration of Independence in different ways like it was initially published as a printed broadsheet that was widely distributed and read by the public. Constitutionally, the Declaration emphasized two themes: **Individual Rights** and the **Right to revolution**. These ideas became widely popularized by Americans and that was spread internationally as well influencing the French Revolution very deeply.

The Constitution of the United States of America (1787) and Bill of Rights (1791)

The Constitution of the United States of America is the fundamental law of the US federal system of government that was written during the summer of 1787 in Philadelphia and is also regarded as the landmark document of the Western world. This constitution was regarded as the oldest constitution found in written form and that described the principal organs of government and their principal functions, jurisdictions, and the basic rights of citizens.

The first ten amendments to the Constitution—the Bill of Rights—came into effect on December 15, 1791, that contracted the powers of the federal government of the United States and emphasized protecting the rights of all citizens, residents, and visitors in American territory irrespective of any discrimination.

The Bill of Rights came into existence to protect freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to keep and bear arms, the freedom of assembly, and the freedom to petition. It also forbids unreasonable search and seizure, cruel and unusual punishment, and compelled self-incrimination. Among the legal protections, the Bill of Rights prohibits Congress from passing any law preferring any religion and prohibits the federal government from depriving any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. In the case of federal criminal cases, it requires indictment by a grand jury for any capital offense, or infamous crime guarantees a speedy public trial with an impartial jury in the district in which the crime occurred and prohibits double jeopardy. (<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/brief-history/declaration-of-independence.html>)

Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen (1789)

In 1789 the people of France were successful in abandoning the absolute monarchy and set the stage for the establishment of the first French Republic. After a few weeks of the abolition of feudalism, the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen was adopted by the National Constituent Assembly as the first step towards writing a constitution for the Republic of France.

The Declaration proclaims that all citizens are to be guaranteed constitutional rights of "liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression." It argues that the need for law derives from the fact that the exercise of the natural rights of each man has only those borders which assure other members of the society the enjoyment of these same rights." Thus, the Declaration sees law as an "expression of the general will," intended to promote this equality of rights and to forbid "only actions harmful to the society."

The First Geneva Convention (1864)

Sixteen European countries and several American states attended a conference in Geneva in 1864 at the invitation of the Swiss Federal Council, under the aegis of the Geneva Committee. The historic conference was held to adopt a convention for the treatment of wounded soldiers in combat and the main principles laid down in the Convention and maintained by the later Geneva Conventions provided for the obligation to extend care

without discrimination to wounded and sick military personnel and respect for and marking of medical personnel transports and equipment with the distinctive sign of the red cross on a white background.

The United Nations (1945)

World War II that was continued till 1945, had ruined human civilization very massively in Europe and Asia and as a result, the UNO came into existence. Millions of people were dead; millions more were rendered homeless or starving in all affected countries. "Russian forces were closing in on the remnants of German resistance in Germany's bombed-out capital of Berlin. In the Pacific, US Marines were still battling entrenched Japanese forces on such islands as Okinawa. In April 1945, delegates from fifty countries met in San Francisco full of optimism and hope. The goal of the United Nations Conference on International Organization was to fashion an international body to promote peace and prevent future wars. The ideals of the organization were stated in the preamble to its proposed charter: "We the peoples of the United Nations are determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind." The Charter of the new United Nations organization went into effect on October 24, 1945, a date that is celebrated each year as United Nations Day.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

By 1948, the United Nations' new Human Rights Commission had captured the world's attention. Under the dynamic chairmanship of Eleanor Roosevelt—President Franklin Roosevelt's widow, a human rights champion in her own right, and the United States delegate to the UN—the Commission set out to draft the document that became the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration was adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1948. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_Declaration_of_Human_Rights)

In its preamble and Article 1, the Declaration unequivocally proclaims the inherent rights of all human beings: "Disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy the freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people...All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

The Member States of the United Nations pledged to work together to promote the thirty Articles of human rights that, for the first time in history, had been assembled and codified into a single document. In consequence, many of these rights, in various forms, are today part of the constitutional laws of democratic nations.

On October 24, 1945, in the aftermath of World War II, the United Nations came into being as an intergovernmental organization, to save future generations from the devastation of international conflict. (Rights".)

The Charter of the United Nations established six principal bodies, including the General Assembly, the Security Council, the International Court of Justice, and human rights, and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The UN Charter empowered ECOSOC to establish "commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights...." One of these was the United Nations Human Rights Commission, which, under the chairmanship of Eleanor Roosevelt, saw to the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Declaration was drafted by representatives of all regions of the world and encompassed all legal traditions. Formally adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1948, it is the most universal human rights document in existence, delineating the thirty fundamental rights that form the basis for a democratic society.

Following this historic act, the Assembly called upon all Member Countries to publicize the text of the Declaration and "to cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories."

Today, the Declaration is a living document that has been accepted as a contract between a government and its people throughout the world. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, it is the most translated document in the world.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights was a legendary document in the history of human rights that came into existence on 10th December 1948. Under the active guidance of the then-first lady of the United States of America, there were 50 member states of the UNO assembled to ensure human rights protection of all the humans of the world. (<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/universal-declaration-of-human-rights/>)

On 10 December 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations announced the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) where 30 rights and freedoms emerged to be recognized to belong to all of us. After the UDHR came into force more than 73 years have passed and it has been serving as an important legend document for the protection and promotion of human rights to date.

Eleanor Roosevelt was very actively involved in establishing civil rights and social activism and she was involved as an appointed chair of the UN Commission on Human Rights which drafted the UDHR. On the tenth anniversary of the UDHR, Eleanor gave a speech at the United Nations called *'Where Do Human Rights Begin?'* Part of her speech has become famous for capturing the reason why human rights are for every one of us, in all parts of our daily lives.

'Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.'
(<https://www.humanrights.com/what-are-human-rights/brief-history/the-united-nations.html>)

Human Rights in India:

India, being, the largest democratic country in the world one of its main objectives is the protection and promotion of basic rights for the fullest development of the people. The government of India has been following the principles of the constitution regarding the recognition and protection of human rights. The Constitution of India recognizes some basic human rights to be beneficial for their existence as per the instructions found in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that contains civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. The Constitution of India guarantees most of the human rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Part III of the constitution contains civil and political rights, whereas economic, social, and cultural rights have been included in Part IV of the Constitution.⁸ All the statutes have to be in concurrence of the provisions of the Constitution of the philosophy and objective of the Constitution of India which is enshrined in the preamble that includes the protection of the dignity of an individual. For the fulfillment of this objective Part III of the constitution guarantees fundamental rights to people which are essential for the development of an individual personality, these rights include the right to equality, the right to freedom, the right against exploitation, the right to freedom of religion, cultural and educational rights and the right to constitutional remedies. It is the duty of the central as well as state Governments to provide adequate conditions for each individual to enjoy their human rights. The constitution through Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in Part IV of the Constitution, ascertains the duties of the government to work for the welfare of the people and protection of human rights of the people. These are guiding principles for the state to make policies regarding distributive justice, right to work, right to education, social security, just and humane conditions of work, for promotion of the interest of weaker section, raise the standard of nutrition and standard

of living and to improve public health, protection, and improvement of environment and ecology, etc. so that each individual can enjoy rights to the fullest.

Conclusion: From the above statutes and provisions that emerged from time to time for the protection and promotion of human rights it is found that although there were several provisions for the protection of human rights still in every state the cases of violation are rampant. Human rights are the basic rights that were at stake until codification of human rights. In every stage of human civilization, the status of human rights was found to be developed and after the UDHR all the UNO member countries were instructed to frame the important provisions for the protection and as a result, the condition of human rights are improved considerably in almost all countries. From the historical perspective, we come to know that the journey of human rights started from the Vedic period but there is a lot to do in this respect for the proper implementation of the provisions of UDHR. Despite many provisions and acts prevailing for promotion and protection of human rights the political leaders, social workers, thinkers, economists, scientists, and philanthropists must do something meaningful to ensure human rights around the globe and in case of failure in this regard, the world will never be a happy abode for human beings.

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