

SPATIO-TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN UTTAR PRADESH: 1961 – 2011

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Abstract:

Uttar Pradesh is one of the educationally most backward states of India. One of the characteristic of educational achievement of Uttar Pradesh is that there exist large scale disparities in literacy between different regions and social and religious groups. For the inclusive development of the country it is necessary that all section of the society must have access to education. The present study aims to analyze the literacy and educational status of scheduled caste and Muslims in Uttar Pradesh. For this purpose census data for the three time period (1961, 2001 and 2011) has been used. In order to gauge the progress of education, district-wise achievement at the primary and matriculation and above levels of education have been analyzed. The state was most backward in terms of attainment of education at the matriculation and above level (1.59 percent in 1961 and 20.76 percent in 2001. The same trend has been observed in 2011 also though there is some improvement). Allahabad division is most advanced educationally, as the percentage of total population who have achieved an education at the matriculation level and above is greater here than in any other division of the state. Faizabad division where literacy in the total population and also in the scheduled castes and religious groups is very low, educational attainment even up to primary level is also very low. Finally the estimates of literacy and educational attainment at district level computed in this paper will contribute in unfolding ground realities of scheduled castes and Muslims educational backwardness in the largest state of India and proved helpful for more intensive research.

Keywords: Education; Backwardness; Muslims; Religious Communities; Scheduled Castes

1. Introduction

Development should bring opportunities for all sections of the society. People from different social and economic background have different aspiration from the process of development. As pointed out by Bikramaditya K Choudhary , “Development is said to bring opportunities to the people and new possibilities that were not available earlier. It is seen and defined in terms of technological advancements, increased mobility both horizontal and vertical, enhanced skills, means of communication and so on”¹ In spite of sixty years of planned development its roots has not reached to all corners and strata of the society and the fruit of development has not been equally distributed among different socio-religious groups. Education is well researched aspect many researches tries to unravel different aspects of education, such as educational disparities (Raza 1990, Sanjeeva 1992 and Chatley 1995). Educational Status of women and ‘Social Groups’ has been studied by many researchers who have highlighted issues related to gender gap in educational attainment among social groups in India (Gandhi 2002, Dunn 1993, Muralidhar 1986,). Disparities in literacy across gender and ‘Social Groups’, have also captures the attention of the scholars (Shaukath 2005, Zaidi 1998). However the question of educational backwardness of religious minorities remained largely not well documented in these studies. More studies are required to develop a deeper understanding as why fruit of education is not equally distributed across gender, religion and social groups. Uttar Pradesh is one of the educationally most backward states of India. It has inherited disparities which are mainly regional, sex based and caste based. These disparities exist due to social and cultural factors that hamper the educational development of scheduled castes, minorities, and women. Thus it is important to study the educational status of different social and religious groups in the most populated state of India. The main aim of the present paper is to analyze the spatio-temporal variation in educational attainment among social and religious in Uttar Pradesh. This paper is divided into four sections. The introductory section is followed by a discussion on spatio-temporal pattern of literacy across general population, Scheduled Castes and Religious Groups. Third section devoted mainly to explore the pattern of higher education among socio-religious groups. The final section presents some concluding remarks.

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2. Literacy Status in Uttar Pradesh

2.1. Literacy among Total Population:

One of the characteristic of educational achievement of Uttar Pradesh is that there exist large scale disparities in literacy between different regions and social and religious groups. The low levels of educational development among the various strata of society are both the cause and the effect of socioeconomic disparities between them. Here in this section an attempt has been made to analyze the literacy scenario in Uttar Pradesh among different strata of society. The analysis about the progress of literacy in the total population shows that over all literacy rates of the state was 17.34 per cent in 1961 which rose to 45.56 per cent in 2001 and further to 67.68 per cent in 2011. This shows that over the sixty years of planned development, the progress in literacy has been marginally low. Performance of Uttar Pradesh in term of literate population is way behind other states. The female literacy shows much improvement as it increased from 6.94 per cent in 1961 to 34.11 per cent in 2001 and 57.18 per cent in 2011. The district wise analysis of the literacy data shows that in 1961, lowest literate districts were Basti, Gonda, Bahraich, Sultanpur, Barabanki, Rae Bareilly, Sitapur, Kheri, Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, and Budaun. The same trend has been observed in 2001 and 2011 also with slight variations. Table 1 shows the performance of districts in terms of literacy over the two time periods.

Table 1. Literacy Rates in the Total Population in Uttar Pradesh, 1961-2011

Year	Areas	Lowest Literacy Rates			Highest literacy Rates		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1961	Total	Budaun (9.64)	Budaun (14.21)	Bahraich (2.72)	Kanpur (31.49)	Kanpur (41.58)	Lucknow (19.55)
	Rural	Budaun (7.89)	Budaun (12.41)	Bahraich (1.75)	Etawah (21.12)	Jalaun (33.00)	Kanpur (8.74)
	Urban	Rampur (27.65)	Budaun (34.03)	Hamirpur (18.30)	Gorakhpur (48.44)	Gorakhpur (60.34)	Lucknow (36.08)
	Total	Bahraich (27.67)	Bahraich (37.06)	Bahraich (16.80)	Kanpur (61.28)	Kanpur (67.32)	Kanpur (54.21)
	Rural	Bahraich	Rampur	Bahraich	Etawah	Etawah	Etawah

2001		(25.55)	(35.14)	(14.22)	(55.34)	(64.62)	(44.43)
	Urban	Budaun (43.23)	Budaun (49.16)	Budaun (36.57)	Allahabad (68.64)	Allahabad (74.60)	Kanpur (63.91)
2011	Total	Bahraich (49.36)	Shrawasti (57.16)	Shrawasti (34.78)	Gautam Budha Nagar	Gautam Budha Nagar	Gautam Budha Nagar
	Rural	Bahraich (47.53)	Shrawasti (46.10)	Shrawasti (56.73)	Auraiya	Auraiya	Auraiya
	Urban	Rampur (56.0)	Rampur (60.18)	Rampur (51.44)	Auraiya	Auraiya	Auraiya

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 1961, 2001, and 2011

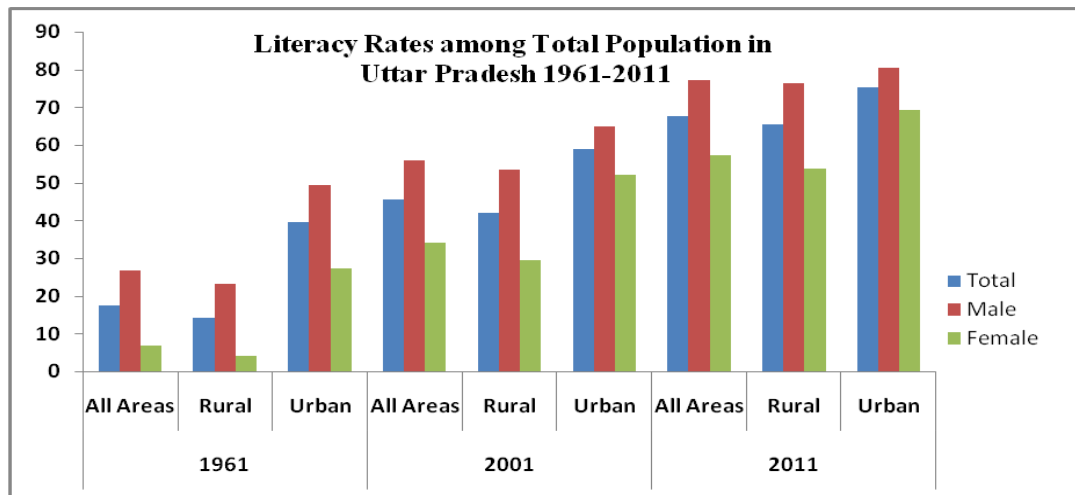
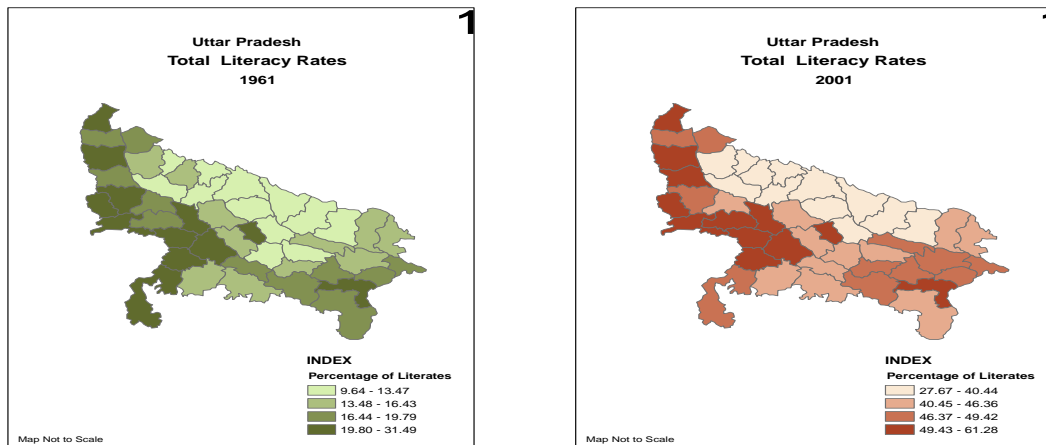


Fig: 1

The map 1 clearly shows that the district which has high level of literacy achievement in 1961, has high literacy rate in 2011 also, while those districts whose performance was poor in literacy in 1961, shows abysmally low rates of literate in 2011 also. All these districts which show low literacy rates were educationally backward since the beginning of the present century. This also suggests that there is regional variation in literacy map of the state. In spite of various government schemes to narrow down the regional disparity in literacy, not much has achieved

yet. The educational backwardness of the state was very much a result of social attitude of the people. As Dreze and Gazdar [6], rightly remarked that “the educational expansion in Uttar Pradesh depends crucially on a transformation of social attitudes and practices”. Figure 1 shows the progress of literacy over the period 1961 and 2001.



Map: 1

We find a sharp contrast between eastern and western areas of state in term of educational achievement. In the state different administrative divisions have their own story to tell. The division wise analysis shows that Faizabad and Rohilkhand divisions have the lowest literacy rates both in terms of rural-urban and male-female, while the Allahabad division has the highest percentage of literates in its rural-urban and male-female populations. The rural-urban break down of the literacy figure shows another interesting feature. There exists a wide disparity in the literacy rates of urban and rural areas. The rural literacy rates were 14.07 per cent in 1961 which rose to 65.46 per cent in 2011, while levels of literacy during these periods in urban areas were 39.47 per cent and 75.14 per cent respectively.

2.2. Literacy among Scheduled Castes

Literacy helps a social group to acquire a higher social status through the process of social mobility. It is one of the tragedies of India’s development that the country still lags behind educationally, both absolutely and in comparison to other developed countries with similar income levels. Historically scheduled castes have been suffered from distinct social, economic and educational disabilities. The low level of educational development of scheduled caste and the

disparities therein was the result of the historical separation of work from knowledge. The educational development of a region is an index of social development. In a region where all sections of society are literate, overall educational achievement is also high. So here in this section an attempt has been made to review the progress of literacy among scheduled castes of Uttar Pradesh. In this state, caste prejudice is most prevalent and it is very much reflected in the educational achievement of the weaker sections of the state.

Table 2. Literacy Rates among Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh

General Population									
	1961			2001			2011		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Total	17.34	26.77	6.94	45.56	55.85	34.11	67.68	77.28	57.18
Rural	14.07	23.23	4.11	42.06	53.43	29.47	65.46	76.33	53.65
Urban	39.47	49.40	27.32	58.92	64.92	52.06	75.14	80.45	69.22
Scheduled Castes									
	1961			2001			2011		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Total	6.97	12.49	1.11	36.75	48.12	24.11	-	-	-
Rural	6.10	11.27	0.66	35.16	46.81	22.27	59.80	71.12	47.35
Urban	18.70	28.05	7.57	48.06	57.28	37.45	67.47	75.65	58.20

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 1961, 2001 and 2011.

In 1961 level of literacy among Scheduled Castes were 6.97 per cent with 12.49 per cent male and 1.11 per cent female literates, while in 2001 it increased to 36.75 per cent with 48.12 per cent male and 24.11 percent female literates. Over the period the progress of literacy among scheduled caste females was more than the males. The scheduled castes display a sharp contrast in the literacy rates of their males and females. As we can observe that in 1961 male literacy was 12.49 per cent, while female was 1.11 per cent. In 2001 also male literacy rate was double the female literacy rate. Such a depressingly low literacy rate among the females belonging to the scheduled castes is partly the product of the socio-economic denials and deprivations that this social group has suffered for centuries and partly because the kind of jobs the scheduled castes

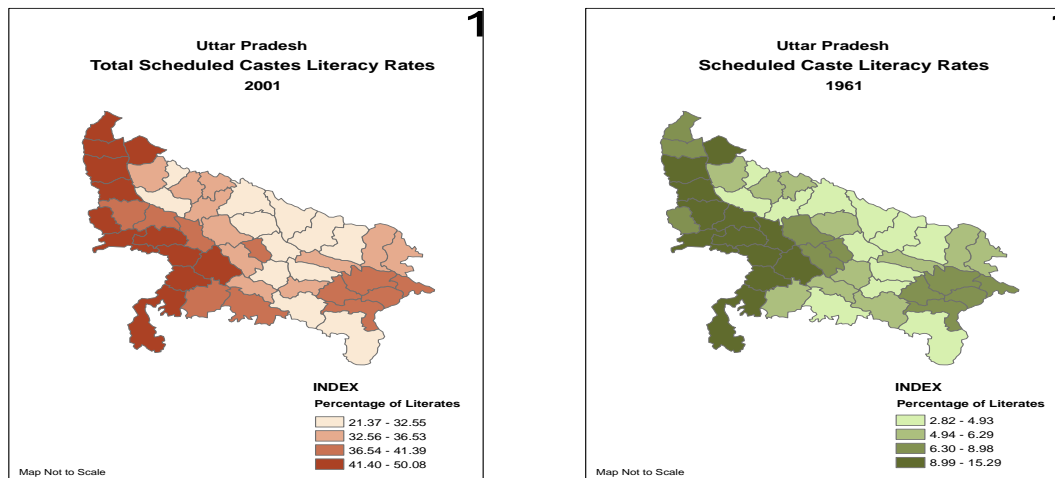
female take up do not make it necessary for them to get educated. On the other hand their residential, social and occupational segregation has been the most inhibiting factor in the acquisition of education particularly among the females. There is also rural-urban contrast in terms of literacy as urban literacy rates has increased from 18.70 per cent in 1961 to 67.47 in 2011, the same for urban areas was 6.10 per cent and 59.80 per cent. Table 4.3 shows the district wise literacy rate among scheduled caste populations. It can be concluded that over the year proportion of literates has increased among Scheduled Castes though their performance in comparison to general population is still much behind.

Table 3. Literacy Rates among Scheduled Caste in Uttar Pradesh, 1961-2001

Literacy	1961		2001		2011	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Lowest	Rampur (2.66)	Barabanki (6.21)	Gonda (21.55)	Barabanki (30.71)	Balrampur (40.12)	Balrampur (49.08)
Highest	Etawah (12.60)	Gonda (34.69)	Etawah (48.62)	Jhansi (57.06)	Ghaziabad Saharanpur Meerut	Saharanpur Jhansi Lalitpur

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 1961 and 2001

The district-wise literacy scenario reveals another interesting pattern. It is evident from the examination of the above Table that during both the period the literacy rates among Scheduled Castes were high in the all those districts where literacy among total population was high. The highest percentages of literate were observed in the districts of Meerut, Agra, Mainpuri, Etawah, Kanpur, Jalaun, while poorest literacy among scheduled caste was recorded in the districts of Budaun, Rampur, Sultanpur, Gonda, Basti and Barabanki (Map 2). In all these districts female literacy was also significantly low. No doubt the overall share of scheduled castes in literacy has increased over the time, but when we compare it with the general population, literacy they are still the most deprived section of the society.



Map: 2

2.3. Literacy Rates among Religious Groups

Hindus and Muslims constitute 99% of the total population of the Uttar Pradesh. There is a wide disparity between the educational standard of these two communities. Muslims are more economically backward and educationally lagging behind. It is quite well established that the majority of Muslims are poor and engaged in marginal economic activities. As remarked by Imtiaz Ahmad [3] “the educational backwardness among the Muslims is due not so much to their religious fanaticism or their acute minority complex, but rather because of the small size of the social strata whose members can be expected to go in for education as a normal activity”. Educational deprivation of Muslims has historical roots, since the beginning of the present century their educational standard was deplorable. Hindus had an earlier start in the educational field while the Muslims entered into this at a much later stage. In Independent India the practice of maintaining community-wise literacy figures have been discontinued. Therefore, we do not exactly know how far behind the Muslims have fallen in literacy and education. In the Census of 2001 and 2011, however, this information is available, hence in this section an attempt has been made to analyze the literacy scenario of two major communities of state in 2001 and 2011.

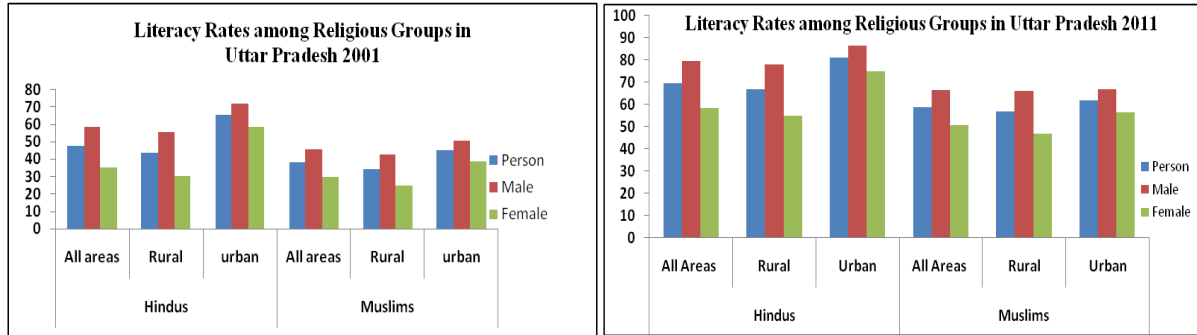


Fig: 2

Figure 2 clearly depicts the literacy status of two communities of the State. According to the 2001 Census, the percentage of literates among the Hindus was 47.17 percent as against 37.81 percent of Muslim literates. Inter-district variations in literacy quite distinct. Among the Hindus, on the one end of the scale is Kanpur with 62.41 percent of its population returned as literate while Budaun has a literacy rate of 30.74 percent and is at the bottom. Other districts which have low literacy rates are Rampur, Kheri, Sitapur, Barahbanki, Bahraich, Gonda and Basti; all these districts have literacy rates of less than 40 percent. While, the districts which are close to with Kanpur are Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bijnor, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Mathura, Etawah, Lucknow, Agra and Mainpuri. An interesting feature of the data is that literacy rates are particularly low in districts with a high concentration of Muslim population. On the other hand the lowest literacy rates among Muslims have been reported in the districts of Moradabad, Rampur, Budaun, Bareilly, Bahraich and Gonda i.e. less than 30 percent. While the districts of Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Hamirpur, Allahabad, Azamgarh and Ballia have literacy rates above 50 percent. The same trend has been observed in census 2011 also. Muslims are overwhelmingly urban in western and central districts. The reasons for high literacy among Muslims in these districts are attributed to a large number of big cities and early start of educational reform.

Table 4. Literacy Rates among Religious Groups in Uttar Pradesh

Muslims						
	2001			2011		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Total	37.81	45.44	29.50	58.76	66.42	50.59
Rural	33.91	42.69	24.45	56.79	66.06	47.04
Urban	44.74	50.26	38.61	61.94	67.00	56.44
Hindus						

	2001			2011		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Total	47.17	58.08	34.96	69.68	79.73	58.61
Rural	43.44	55.26	30.29	66.99	78.12	54.82
Urban	65.29	71.49	58.11	81.05	86.44	74.96

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 2001 and 2011

Rural-urban breakdown of the data shows greater disparities in literacy within these communities. Rural literacy rates among Hindus are 66.99 per cent with 78.12 per cent male and 54.82 per cent female literates, such figures for Muslims are 56.79 per cent, 66.06 per cent and 47.04 per cent respectively. In the case of urban area literacy among Hindus is 81.05 per cent with 86.44 per cent of male and 74.96 per cent of female literates. In urban areas Out of 46 districts, a majority of the districts has a Hindu literacy above 60 percent, while that of Muslim's is less than 45 percent. Muslim females are more deprived than their Hindu counterparts. In the districts of Ghazipur, Jaunpur, Ballia and Azamgarh urban literacy among Muslims is greater than that of the Hindus. Low literacy rates among Hindus of these districts might be because of the large proportion of low caste Hindu population who are educationally backward while Muslims of these districts are better off socially and economically.

3. Educational Attainment among Socio-Religious Groups

3.1. Primary Level of Education among Scheduled Castes

Since scheduled castes are viewed as the most deprived, disadvantaged and suffering sections of the society, it is necessary to assess progress made by them in different levels of education. Table 5 provides data about primary level of education among scheduled caste populations between 1961 and 2001. The primary level of education among scheduled castes increased from 1.54 per cent in 1961 to 22.22 per cent in 2001. Correspondingly the attainment of the primary level of education among the female population in 1961 and 2001 was 0.18 per cent and 17.18 per cent respectively. One of the interesting features revealed by the data is that all those districts where primary level of education in the total population was high, scheduled caste primary level of education was also encouraging. In 1961, Etawah (3.23 per cent) had the highest percentages of scheduled castes literate at the primary level followed by Mainpuri (3.00 per cent), Kanpur (2.72 per cent), Meerut (2.65 per cent), Farrukhabad (2.44 per cent), Jalaun (2.24 per cent), Etah (2.23

per cent) and Lucknow (2.10 per cent). One can see that these percentages were very low. The lowest percentages of literate at the primary level were recorded in the entire eastern part of the state. The situation of female educational attainment was pitiable in this respect. In 1961 the highest figure was recorded in the district of Kanpur (1.23 per cent) and the lowest were in Bahraich and Sultanpur (0.02 per cent). The overall educational attainment of the scheduled castes at the primary level increased in 2001, but when we compare this level with that of the general population, they still lagged behind. Saharanpur (30.05 per cent) shows high literacy among scheduled castes at the primary stage, while the lowest was in Bahraich (13.96 per cent). Table 5 also shows that Banda district has made significant progress over the period in the scheduled caste primary level of literacy.

Table 5. Attainment of Primary Level of Education among Scheduled Caste Population in Uttar Pradesh, 1961-2001

Districts	Primary Level (percentages to the total SC population)					
	1961			2001		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Uttar Pradesh	1.54	2.83	0.18	22.22	26.75	17.18
Saharanpur	1.56	2.74	0.20	30.05	33.62	25.90
Muzaffarnagar	1.66	3.00	0.12	27.61	31.76	22.78
Bijnor	2.27	3.90	0.50	25.96	29.56	21.88
Moradabad	1.80	3.18	0.21	20.77	25.31	15.52
Rampur	0.96	1.73	0.08	18.34	22.75	13.27
Meerut	2.65	4.78	0.22	27.24	30.34	23.63
Bulandshahr	1.59	3.03	0.06	25.43	30.57	19.48
Aligarh	1.57	2.81	0.17	24.17	28.56	19.06
Mathura	1.64	3.00	0.11	25.61	30.53	19.84
Agra	1.72	2.98	0.22	24.05	28.22	19.11
Mainpuri	3.00	4.97	0.67	26.74	29.33	23.70
Etah	2.23	3.96	0.24	22.05	26.10	17.24

Budaun	0.83	1.45	0.07	19.22	23.32	14.35
Bareilly	1.30	1.99	0.45	22.81	26.16	18.91
Pilibhit	1.61	2.87	0.14	24.01	28.33	19.05
Shahjahanpur	1.27	2.28	0.07	22.55	26.09	18.32
Kheri	1.36	2.48	0.11	20.94	25.60	15.63
Sitapur	1.61	2.97	0.08	20.88	25.68	15.32
Hardoi	1.97	3.58	0.14	22.39	27.21	16.59
Unnao	1.40	2.53	0.17	23.36	28.07	18.20
Lucknow	2.10	3.59	0.41	23.41	26.68	19.76
Rae Bareli	0.97	1.85	0.08	20.47	26.13	14.63
Farrukhabad	2.44	4.10	0.35	24.10	27.19	20.44
Etawah	3.23	5.64	0.45	27.18	28.82	25.22
Kanpur	2.72	3.97	1.23	24.74	26.75	22.38
Jalaun	2.24	4.16	0.13	25.39	28.13	22.10
Jhansi	1.97	3.64	0.16	24.51	29.49	18.84
Hamirpur	0.87	1.67	0.06	23.88	29.09	17.76
Banda	0.67	1.27	0.04	24.69	30.21	18.34
Fatehpur	1.37	2.61	0.07	22.32	26.94	17.18
Pratabgarh	1.38	2.83	0.10	21.86	27.48	16.43
Allahabad	1.38	2.49	0.25	18.57	23.67	12.91
Barabanki	0.86	1.63	0.03	18.34	22.80	13.33
Faizabad	1.35	2.73	0.03	21.80	26.47	17.01
Sultanpur	0.59	1.19	0.02	20.99	26.59	15.24
Bahraich	0.81	1.55	0.02	13.96	18.97	8.07
Gonda	0.82	1.53	0.10	14.78	20.76	8.05
Basti	0.82	1.59	0.03	19.37	24.94	13.49
Gorakhpur	1.49	2.93	0.14	21.07	26.49	15.43
Deoria	1.47	2.95	0.07	19.51	24.90	14.02
Azamgarh	1.10	2.22	0.08	22.26	26.78	17.85
Ballia	2.00	4.01	0.10	19.33	22.87	15.59

Jaunpur	1.43	2.98	0.06	22.39	27.92	16.91
Ghazipur	1.32	2.63	0.09	21.36	25.44	17.14
Varanasi	1.42	2.65	0.20	21.70	26.72	16.16
Mirzapur	0.78	1.51	0.04	18.32	24.65	11.38

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 1961 and 2001

3.2. Attainment of Matriculation & above Level of Education among Scheduled Castes by Districts

Table 6 shows that as we move higher in the pyramid of educational level, the share of Scheduled Castes has declined. In 1961, just 0.29 per cent of the total scheduled castes were educated at the matriculation and above level. The share of females in this respect was abysmally low. While in 2001, the condition improved slightly in comparison to 1961 and the scheduled caste share rose to 12.84 per cent and that of scheduled caste females to 5.59 per cent. But when we compare these shares with the general population, the scheduled castes were more backward. Among the districts, Meerut (21.83 per cent) shows a high percentage of scheduled castes educated at the matriculation and above level closely followed by Etawah (21.22 per cent) Jalaun (20.56 per cent) and Kanpur (19.56 per cent). On the other end of the scale were the districts of Bahraich (5.62 per cent), Gonda (5.89 per cent), Kheri (7.77 per cent) and Budaun (7.82 per cent). The condition of female higher education was also poor in these districts. Thus one can conclude that a higher level of education among Scheduled Caste is very low.

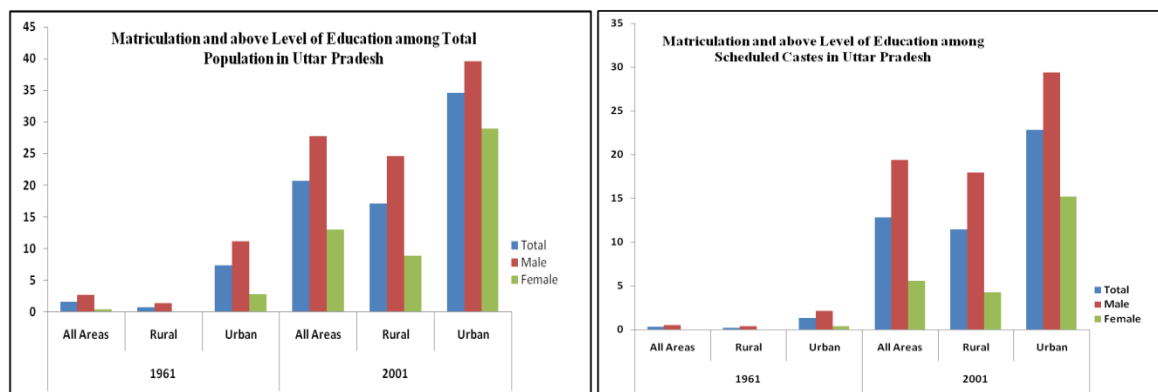


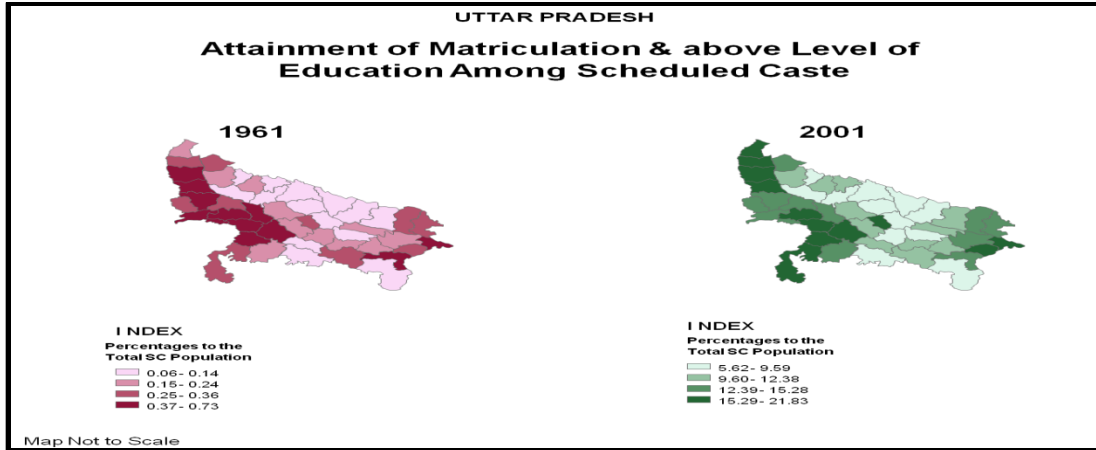
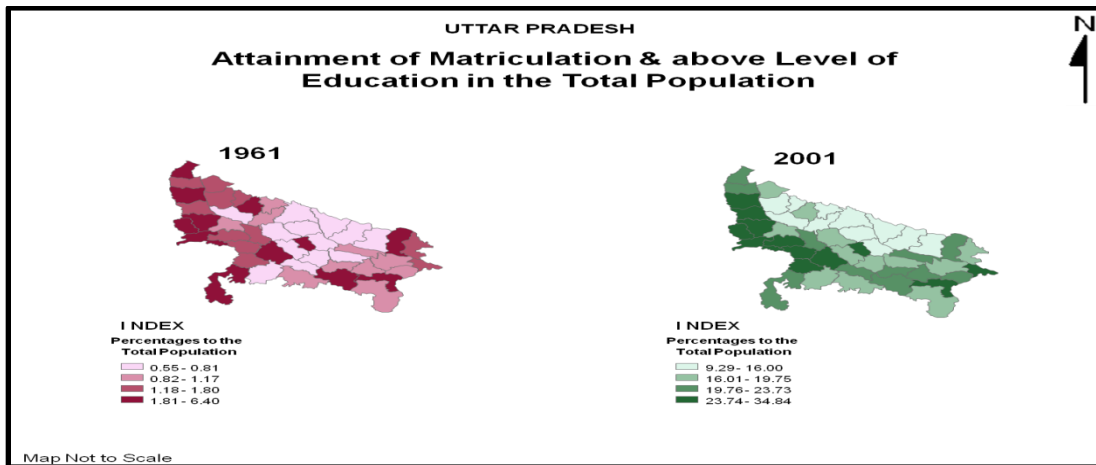
Fig: 3

Table 6. Attainment of Matriculation and above Level of Education among Scheduled Caste**Population in Uttar Pradesh, 1961-2001**

Districts	Matriculation & above Level					
	1961			2001		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Uttar Pradesh	0.29	0.53	0.03	12.84	19.35	5.59
Saharanpur	0.23	0.40	0.03	15.37	22.65	6.91
Muzaffarnagar	0.34	0.64	0.01	16.09	23.75	7.19
Bijnor	0.34	0.66	0.00	14.59	22.40	5.74
Moradabad	0.21	0.38	0.00	11.87	18.29	4.47
Rampur	0.10	0.18	0.01	8.94	13.90	3.23
Meerut	0.73	1.35	0.02	21.83	29.66	12.69
Bulandshahr	0.47	0.90	0.02	16.00	24.16	6.57
Aligarh	0.44	0.80	0.03	15.02	22.63	6.18
Mathura	0.36	0.66	0.01	14.31	22.32	4.91
Agra	0.45	0.82	0.01	14.97	20.85	8.01
Mainpuri	0.47	0.85	0.02	18.58	26.08	9.74
Etah	0.33	0.60	0.02	13.09	19.46	5.55
Budaun	0.14	0.24	0.02	7.82	12.50	2.28
Bareilly	0.24	0.43	0.02	12.21	18.49	4.90
Pilibhit	0.14	0.25	0.01	10.35	16.35	3.45
Shahjahanpur	0.14	0.25	0.01	9.51	14.75	3.26
Kheri	0.10	0.17	0.01	7.77	12.30	2.60
Sitapur	0.13	0.25	0.00	8.56	13.50	2.83
Hardoi	0.20	0.37	0.01	10.80	17.03	3.31
Unnao	0.24	0.45	0.01	10.89	16.29	4.98
Lucknow	0.34	0.60	0.04	16.09	21.97	9.50
Rae Bareli	0.18	0.35	0.00	9.15	14.26	3.87
Farrukhabad	0.59	1.05	0.01	13.84	19.97	6.56

Etawah	0.53	0.98	0.02	21.22	29.14	11.77
Kanpur	0.70	0.83	0.54	19.56	26.05	11.93
Jalaun	0.47	0.90	0.00	20.56	30.39	8.72
Jhansi	0.30	0.56	0.03	15.47	22.79	7.16
Hamirpur	0.15	0.28	0.00	12.42	19.51	4.09
Banda	0.10	0.19	0.00	8.96	14.45	2.65
Fatehpur	0.14	0.28	0.00	11.14	17.44	4.14
Pratabgarh	0.22	0.46	0.01	11.45	18.47	4.67
Allahabad	0.30	0.59	0.01	11.23	17.57	4.21
Barabanki	0.06	0.12	0.00	8.40	13.41	2.76
Faizabad	0.17	0.35	0.00	12.14	18.45	5.67
Sultanpur	0.08	0.17	0.00	9.30	14.98	3.45
Bahraich	0.07	0.13	0.00	5.62	9.26	1.34
Gonda	0.13	0.24	0.02	5.89	9.73	1.57
Basti	0.10	0.21	0.00	9.81	15.95	3.33
Gorakhpur	0.35	0.69	0.03	12.74	20.34	4.85
Deoria	0.34	0.70	0.00	12.70	20.19	5.09
Azamgarh	0.24	0.48	0.03	13.93	20.88	7.15
Ballia	0.60	1.22	0.01	17.99	27.25	8.20
Jaunpur	0.22	0.46	0.00	12.33	19.71	5.03
Ghazipur	0.31	0.63	0.00	16.20	24.99	7.12
Varanasi	0.38	0.74	0.02	14.11	21.49	5.97
Mirzapur	0.12	0.24	0.00	7.26	11.70	2.40

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 1961 and 2001

**Map: 3****Map: 4**

3.3. Educational Attainment among Scheduled Castes: Recent Scenario

Educational attainment is an appropriate indicator to gauge the quality of manpower of any region. It is important indicator of human resource development and overall progress of nation. As mentioned earlier Uttar Pradesh is the largest state both in terms of geography and population. It has largest share of population aged 15 years and above. Thus it is pertinent to analyze the levels of education attainment among this large chunk of population. In the forgoing section a detailed analysis of educational levels has been presented. In this section an attempt has been made to present the most recent scenario of status of higher educational levels among general population, Scheduled Castes and Religious Groups.

Table 7. Levels of Education among Social Groups in Uttar Pradesh 2011

Scheduled Castes						
	Urban			Rural		
Levels of Education	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Below Primary	16.35	15.17	18.08	23.64	20.95	28.09
Primary	23.22	21.99	25.03	29.26	27.82	31.64
Middle	21.02	21.52	20.30	23.01	24.57	20.43
Secondary	13.71	14.33	12.79	9.91	10.97	8.18
Higher Secondary	9.45	9.72	9.03	5.91	6.53	4.89
Graduate and above	10.61	11.63	9.11	3.58	4.43	2.19
Total Population						
	Urban			Rural		
Levels of Education	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Below Primary	13.21	12.87	13.65	20.61	18.63	23.68
Primary	18.57	17.70	19.71	26.25	24.32	29.25
Middle	16.57	16.65	16.45	21.46	22.28	20.19
Secondary	15.04	15.54	14.38	12.62	13.89	10.65
Higher Secondary	12.42	12.48	12.35	8.59	9.35	7.42
Graduate and above	18.42	18.96	17.73	5.56	6.62	3.93

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 2011

The table reveals that among total literates, almost fifty per cent of Scheduled Castes in urban Uttar Pradesh have below primary, primary and middle levels of educational attainment. This is true for rural areas also. When it comes to secondary, higher secondary and graduate and above levels of educational attainment, participation of Scheduled castes in both rural and urban Uttar Pradesh was pathetic. Only 10.61 per cent Scheduled Castes in urban areas and 3.58 per cent in rural areas have graduate and above levels of education. As majority of Scheduled Castes resides in rural areas, one can say that a higher level of educational attainment among them is significantly low, and this might be the reason for their low participation in high paid jobs. Scheduled Castes are backward educationally and this fact becomes more prominent when comparison is made with total population of the state. One can see that 18.42 per cent of total

population in urban areas and 5.56 per cent in rural areas have graduate and above levels of education, much higher than Scheduled castes population.

3.4. Graduate and above level of Education: District Level Analysis 2011

State is not a homogeneous unit; there are lots of variations among different districts of a state. District level analysis presents some interesting facts. In the state only 10.61 per cent urban scheduled castes have attained graduate and above levels of education. Very low proportion of Graduate and above urban Scheduled Castes was recorded in Kausambi (4.21 per cent), Ravidas Nagar (5.41 per cent), Sidharthnagar (5.65 per cent). While relatively better performing districts in terms of graduate and above levels of educational attainment was Lucknow, Sonbhadra, Allahabad, Etawah ect. Scheduled Caste performance in terms of higher levels of educational attainment was pathetic in nearly all the districts, though there is some inter-districts variations. Among general population, districts which have 20-30 per cent graduate and above population were Lucknow, Gautam Budha Nagar, Ghaziabad, Raebareli, Kanpur Nagar, Allahabad, Sultanpur, Basti and Gorakhpur. Thus one can assume that there is wide disparity in terms of higher levels of education between different districts of the state and also between different social groups. Thus one can conclude that

Table 8. Graduate and above Levels of Education among Social Groups in Urban Uttar Pradesh 2011

States	Scheduled Castes	Total Population	States	Scheduled Castes	Total Population
Saharanpur	10.08	15.03	Hamirpur	9.39	15.48
Muzaffarnagar	9.25	14.88	Mahoba	6.70	13.23
Bijnor	10.57	11.97	Banda	11.62	18.34
Moradabad	12.37	15.62	Chitrakoot	6.26	15.27
Rampur	13.27	14.24	Fatehpur	9.48	16.84
Jyotiba Phule Nagar	9.43	11.80	Pratapgarh	8.97	16.64
Meerut	11.04	18.61	Kaushambi	4.12	9.32
Baghpat	8.45	14.06	Allahabad	13.05	24.29
Ghaziabad	9.07	20.25	Bara Banki	7.34	14.38

Gautam Buddha Nagar	8.41	26.70	Faizabad	12.07	20.37
Bulandshahr	10.26	15.14	Ambedkar Nagar	9.48	11.49
Aligarh	9.05	17.93	Sultanpur	10.97	20.50
Mahamaya Nagar	8.34	16.03	Bahraich	10.80	15.40
Mathura	7.95	16.37	Shrawasti	5.80	9.78
Agra	8.18	17.05	Balrampur	8.55	14.51
Firozabad	8.60	13.36	Gonda	10.11	17.76
Mainpuri	11.75	16.02	Siddharthnagar	5.65	10.64
Budaun	7.64	12.73	Basti	9.55	22.20
Bareilly	12.08	16.54	Sant Kabir Nagar	6.34	11.19
Pilibhit	11.99	15.84	Mahrajganj	6.77	12.85
Shahjahanpur	12.03	15.09	Gorakhpur	12.45	22.65
Kheri	11.62	16.25	Kushinagar	6.90	13.42
Sitapur	11.28	15.58	Deoria	9.29	17.77
Hardoi	12.08	13.99	Azamgarh	8.38	12.34
Unnao	8.92	14.81	Mau	8.09	9.67
Lucknow	16.80	28.20	Ballia	6.99	14.62
Rae Bareli	12.51	20.87	Jaunpur	9.32	15.25
Farrukhabad	9.79	15.60	Ghazipur	9.85	15.68
Kannauj	8.49	14.06	Chandauli	10.60	14.66
Etawah	13.78	19.43	Varanasi	10.32	19.24
Auraiya	12.70	18.04	Sant Ravidas Nagar	5.41	10.04
Kanpur Dehat	8.07	14.80	Mirzapur	7.65	15.11
Kanpur Nagar	11.31	22.19	Sonbhadra	13.33	19.16
Jalaun	12.06	17.45	Etah	12.07	18.63
Jhansi	12.04	19.14	Kanshiram Nagar	9.47	14.02
Lalitpur	11.11	17.30			

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 2011

3.5. Educational Attainment among Religious Groups in Urban Areas

The table 9 shows that almost 45 per cent of literate Muslims have only below primary and primary levels of educational attainment. Primary and below primary levels of education has no practical applicability and does not adds much to improve the economic position of the individual. According to the most recent census data, Muslims are still backward educationally and their share in the higher levels of education is very depressing. Only 8.30 per cent of Muslims have graduate and above levels of education while shares of Hindus in this regard was 21.79 per cent. Muslim females are more backward than their Hindus counterpart. Sachher committee report highlighted in details the educational position of Muslims and made number of recommendations yet not much has done to ameliorate the educational status of Muslims. One can say that in Uttar Pradesh Muslims are educationally more backward than the Scheduled Castes.

Table 9. Levels of Education among Religious Groups in Urban Uttar Pradesh 2011

	Muslim			Hindus		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Below Primary	19.10	18.58	19.78	11.22	10.94	11.59
Primary	25.92	25.96	25.87	16.13	14.92	17.71
Middle	18.02	18.83	16.98	16.18	16.00	16.42
Secondary	13.22	13.37	13.03	15.66	16.27	14.86
Higher Secondary	8.61	7.99	9.41	13.71	14.02	13.31
Graduate and above	8.30	8.24	8.36	21.79	22.60	20.74

Source: Census of India, Uttar Pradesh, Social and Cultural Tables, 2011

In Uttar Pradesh illiteracy among Muslims are the highest in all the NSSO regions of the state except the southern regions, which comprises Jalaun, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Banda and Chitrakoot. Illiteracy among Muslims is more marked in the Southern Upper Ganga Plain (49.80 per cent), North Upper Ganga Plain (41.50 per cent) and Eastern (38.70 per cent) regions. Upto Primary levels of educational attainment Muslims are ahead of Hindus in Central, Eastern and Southern regions of the state. But their share in higher secondary and graduate and above level of educational attainment is pathetic. This also shows that if in some parts of the state, there

is educational achievement among Muslims; it is only upto primary and middle levels while their shares in higher levels are abysmally low in almost all parts of the state. The only exception in this regard is Southern (10.20 per cent) and Central (8.30 per cent) region where graduation and above levels of educational attainment among Muslims are comparatively high. The worst performer in this respect is the Southern Upper Ganga Plain region of the state, where only 3.20 per cent of Muslims have graduation and above level of educational attainment while the share of Hindus in this regard is 20.60 per cent.

Table 10. NSSO Region Wise Levels of Education among Religious Groups in Urban Uttar Pradesh 2009–2010

NSSO Region		Not Literate	Below Primary	Primary	Middle	Secondary	Higher Secondary	Graduate & above
Uttar Pradesh								
North Upper Ganga Plain	Hindus	14.40	3.40	7.20	13.20	14.00	20.10	27.60
	Muslim	41.50	7.40	11.70	13.00	10.40	11.60	4.30
Central	Hindus	17.50	3.60	8.20	13.40	13.90	18.20	25.20
	Muslim	34.90	4.70	15.10	16.10	13.60	7.40	8.30
Eastern	Hindus	21.80	4.70	9.40	16.80	15.00	15.30	17.00
	Muslim	38.70	11.60	11.70	14.40	11.00	8.10	4.60
Southern	Hindus	12.30	2.70	10.00	17.80	19.20	20.80	17.20
	Muslim	6.50	3.20	14.30	32.70	18.10	15.00	10.20
Southern Upper Ganga Plain	Hindus	23.60	5.30	7.40	16.20	11.90	15.10	20.60
	Muslim	49.80	7.80	12.30	14.60	8.50	3.80	3.20

Southern Upper Ganga Plain region comprises the districts of western Uttar Pradesh. It may be because historically in this region some of the Muslim dominated districts were the worst performer in terms of education among all populations. Muslims backwardness in this state is a

recent phenomenon. As pointed out by Raghu Raj Gupta [12] ‘in the nineteenth century Muslims of Uttar Pradesh were more advanced than the Hindus, constituting in some respects a nearly dominant administrative and cultural elite, whereas the Hindus were the backward community, struggling to assert their language and culture against the privileged positions occupied by Muslims and Muslim culture in the life of the region. Muslims were not backward in this region from 1859 up through 1931 at least they were not significantly behind the Hindus and in many important respects were more advanced than the Hindus in urbanization, literacy, English education social communications and employment especially government employment’. So from the data analysis and observations of Raghuraj Gupta it can be asserted that Muslims backwardness in terms of education in the state is a post independence phenomenon and lapses on the part of community and policy implementation.

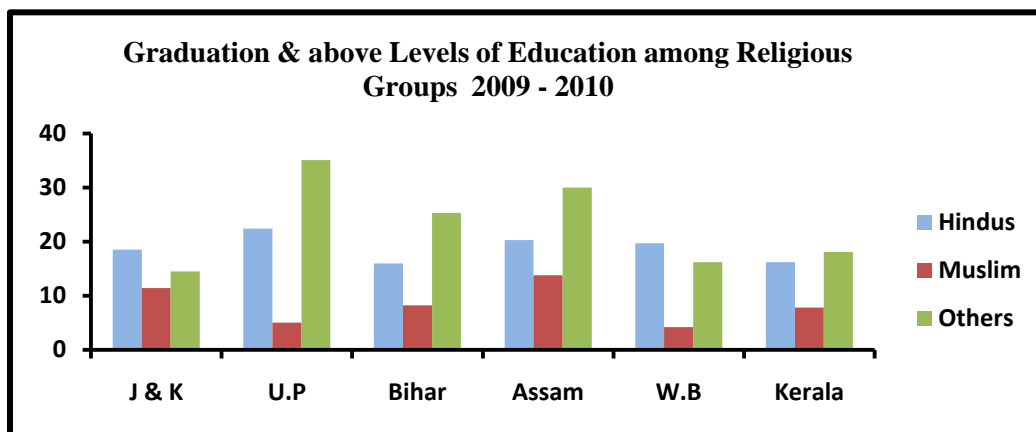


Fig: 4

IV Conclusions

The study has clearly indicated that there has been increased in literacy and educational levels among social and religious groups, though there is disparity among them. It is found that within the state the districts of Budaun, Rampur, and Bahraich are most backward educationally throughout the period both in terms of total and female literacy, and in both the rural and urban areas. The analysis also reveals that throughout the period literates among scheduled castes was lower than the total population. This shows the relative backwardness of the scheduled caste population throughout the period. Strict caste prejudices and poor socio- economic conditions are

the causes of the relative backwardness of this segment of the population of the state. Their shares in higher educational levels have improved, though much behind the general population. Educational position of Muslims is more depressing than any other socio-religious groups. The regions which were better off historically in terms of education have made progress while other areas are still lagging behind. Thus one can conclude that educational opportunities are not distributed evenly among different segments of the population in Uttar Pradesh. It is true that inequality in education is not purely an educational issue for it cuts across the entire social, economic and political fabric of a nation. The social and economic inequalities which are the legacy of the past are reflected in the educational development of the different regions in the state.

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