Caste and social mobility in Pune city

In an earlier study (1999-2000) carried under SAP, it was observed that the traditional equations between caste and occupation have started crumbling. However, we do not know what the extent of this change is as far as the backward castes are concerned. The previous study points to a possibility that the pace with which the link between castes and occupations is changing may vary from one caste groups to another.

In this light, this study intends to examine following specific questions:

- What is the pattern of social mobility among the different caste groups?
- Are persons of different caste groups likely to undergo similar trajectories of generational movement and upward mobility?
- Does this mobility reflect equally among women and men?
- What spatial patterns of intra-city movement and in-migration into the city both from within the state and from outside of Maharashtra?

Given the debates about changing nature of caste in contemporary Indian society and the impact of economic changes on the caste situation, this study assumes significance. It will shed light on the differential nature of intergenerational mobility among different caste groups.

This study is based on an empirical methodology using survey fieldwork as its key method and relies on structured interviews by trained investigators by canvassing the questionnaire to a random sample of citizens (sample size would be around 1200).

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