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## CRIMES AGAINST DALIT WOMEN WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO DHARWAD DISTRICT

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### Abstract:

*Though perfectly called a subcontinent, India bags a bad name as house of too many disabilities-a museum of disparities more recognized on the basis of origin of caste, Hindu religion rich of heritage has been a gift, with bane for the people of Forth Varna, the one's which were regarded as divisions of labours.*

*Dalits have been descendents of Sudra Varna, were kept out of villages ill treated and exploited. Such an exploitation is a never ending process when one glances over the following data.*

*One dalit woman is a victim of Torture in every 27 minutes, one molestation in every 50 minutes one rape in every 2 hours, one sexual harassment in every 2 hours, connected with prostitution in every 90 minutes. The logical inference is that in every 6 minutes one dalit woman becomes a victim of one or the other Crime in India.*

*Dalit woman in India has been not merely a subject of denial of justice-social, economic and political but treated unlike being abused exploited and discarded to lead an indecent life. She is commonly treated as a waste commodity; as asset for disposal.*

*Though crimes are necessarily the effects of violence, crimes against dalit women are essentially an outcome of social degradation particularly women. Every dalit woman lives in the society amidst the threat of anyone with whom she stays may be a woman or man. Hence an ill treatment, discarding of humane life leads to crime and violence.*

*The paper aims at presenting at a glance the crimes or offences against dalit woman, the present situation in Dharwad District. The paper also throws light on facts and circumstances that necessarily push an individual to commit such crimes on the one hand along with summing up the status of dalit women. This paper is an attempt to apply research methods like historical and descriptive. The statistical data has been analysed to draw logical inferences which stand as true portrait of the problem at hand.*

*The exploitation of dalit women folk is worse than confounded. The precarious, life is more shocking to the causes and consequences for such a state of affairs.*

*Suggestions are given to lesson the increasing crimes. The social, moral, and philosophical foundation shall undoubtedly bring a sea change in upper caste people's attitude towards dalit woman to look at her in the eyes of nature.*

*In the conclusion it has been arrived at a point that a society that disregards the fellow dalit woman being as a low born or out caste not merely hampers development of nation but also creates a chaos in the social scenario. Therefore an emphasis must be laid on to protect human rights of dalit woman.*

### KEY-WORDS:

Crimes, Dalit Women's, Dharwad District, Criminology, Forensic Science, Social, Moral,

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Poverty.

## INTRODUCTION

One cannot remember the status of Dalit Women Sumitra, the second wife of King Dasharat treated at par with other queens. The Varna system which was based on division of labour later on turned as caste system, which is bane of Hindu Religion, led to exploitation of people of 4th Varna-i.e., Sudra. Contrarily is the case with modern days when Dalit man is untouchable whereas Dalit woman is touched to commit illegal acts/Criminal Acts. MulkRaj Anand has clearly portrayed the status of Solium when Kashinath tries to satisfy his best with her and on protest proclaims polluted. Hence the status of Dalit woman.

It is a double edged sword on them either to accept silently physical to other like sexual crimes or as a victim of untouchability. On the other hand men of her own community do not spare ill treating her on account of-

- 1)Poverty
- 2)Social degradation
- 3)Atrocity of upper Caste

### 1)Poverty:

The Dalits carry on the occupations which are left by the upper caste people. Hence their earning is less and has led to poverty.

### 2)The Social degradation:

The exploitation on economic, Social and moral fronts has necessarily pushed the Dalits to the lowest a ebb of Society. Hence the social degradation results in the exploitation of dalit women by dalit men.

### 3) Exploitation by Upper Caste Men

When Dalit Men are exploited and ill-treated by upper caste men they no longer remain soft to their women. These dalit women become victims and atrocities.

### Purpose:

The present paper aims to display the increasing violence against women day after day with special emphasis on crimes occurred in Dharwad district of Karnataka State and Hubli-Dharwad city with a help of records received from DCRB of Dharwad district and CCRB of Hubli-Dharwad city.

The study mainly relies on the facts and figures got from the statistics relating to crime against women. The meaning, ingredients which constitute a particular crime have been analysed point wise. The detailed overview of the same is very mind boggling to the reader. The vista of violence against women is very wide and women have been the subjects of suppression since time

immemorial. By the use of historical, factual legal and current information and some primary and documentary sources of information an attempt has been made to present a clear picture of the violence against women. The violence against women has been categorically viewed with the critical analysis. What, how and why the violence against the dalit women.

### Area selected

The study of crimes committed against women at the national level and particularly the author's native state of Karnataka roused interest and curiosity to know the present scenario at his home district Dharwad and Hubli-Dharwad city in view of crimes against dalit women.

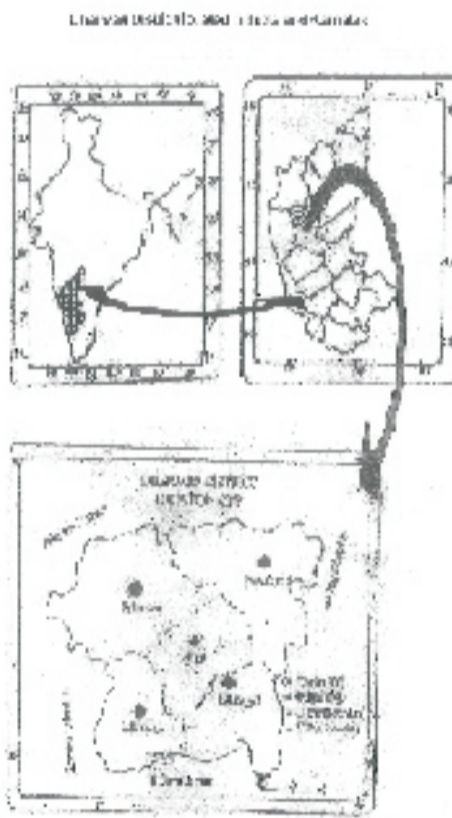
Dharwad district forms northern part of Karnataka a state of India. It is historically, culturally and educationally well known place. Many memorable events took place in this land during Mughal, Maratha and British regimes.

As shown in the map the five talukas constitute Dharwad dist. with a HDMC. It has been popularly known as second capital of Karnataka State. The area of this dist. is 4230 sq Kms with 16,03,794 population

(out of them 50% are living in Hubli Dharwad City) with density of 376/sq km of the 7,80379 are women having 25 police stations and Six prisons under the administration of 14 Criminal Courts and three Sessions Courts.

The highly educated people dwelling in this area are of diverse culture Kannada speaking people communicate fluently of their routine activities, cordially and cohesively. Covered with many geographical variations highly influenced by Monsoon affected climate Dharwad is rich in Agriculture. People migrate to Hubli-Dharwad cities search of livelihood from surrounding places. (As shown in map)

#### DHARWAD DISTRICT LOCATED IN INDIA AND KARNATAK



Dharwad district has the total population of 16 lacks of which people belonging to SC/ST are 3 lacks as per statistical records of 2005. The Dalit Women are 1.2 lacks in number. Though Dharwad district has 7 major cities the rest of Dharwad is comprised of rural folk. The second rate treatment is still in practice in rural areas.

#### METHODOLOGY

This paper is an attempt to apply research methods like historical, descriptive., and case studies. However survey has been conducted to observe the real scenario and the vulgar condition surrounded by view SC/ST victims family along with the collected data from the police department. The statistical data has been analysed to draw logical inferences which stand as true portrait of the problem at hand.

#### Causes

The following are the main causes of victimization of Dalit women

1)Economic Causes.

- 2) Social Causes.
- 3) Political Causes.
- 4) Psychological.
- 5) Moral.
- 6) Illiteracy.
- 7) Physiology.

- 1) Economic Causes: Due to lack of equality in treatment the Dalit women need to go for work for wages. The Master servant relation necessarily pushes woman as victim of some of the crimes.
- 2) Social Causes: The society has a different set up where in a dalit woman is booked at distinct angle. Hence she becomes a victims of crimes. She is treated as a being born to serve people and society at large.
- 3) Political Causes: For the Political lack of support also Dalit Woman is becoming a victim. Though dalit woman is elect in Gram, and Taluka Panchayat because of Reservation. She deprived off raising her voice at the meeting due to male dominance.
- 4) Psychological: a Dalit women is treated at a distance. Hence she is prey in the hands of men.
- 5) Moral: Some of the rituals and traditions inevitably make the society treat Dalit women with suspicious eyes and lands her to a difficulty of pushing herself.
- 6) Illiteracy is also a major cause for the exploitation of Dalit Woman. A dalit woman though provided with reservation etc. by Govt, there is reluctance by parents and other for the hindrance in educating the ladies.
- 7) Physiology: The Physical appearance of women is attractive. And woman is always Weaker than man. Hence there is male dominance and exploitation and Dalit woman is not unexceptional.

As a victim of criminal activities example Davadasi.

#### TYPES OF CRIMES

1. Rape.
2. Hurts Section 319.
3. SC/ST Atrocity Act 1989. A.
4. Molestation.
5. Sexual Harassment (Eve Teasing)
6. Cruelty by Husband or other male
7. Importation of Girls.

Various Acts and Laws in force define the above said crimes as under,

1. Rape: A man is said to commit "rape" who, excepts in the case herein after expected, has sexual intercourse with a women under circumstances falling under any of the following descriptions, First. - Against her will-Secondly.- Without her consent. Thirdly.- With her consent, when her consent has been obtained by putting her in fear of death, or hurt. Fourthly.- With her consent, when the man knows that he is not her husband, and that her consent is given because she believed that he is another man to whom she is or believes herself to be lawful married. Fifthly.- With or without her consent, when she is under sixteen years of age.
- 2). Hurt: It is a common form of domestic violence section 319 of penal code defines the expression "hurt", as causing bodily pain, injury, mfirmity and disease to any person; however, serious hurt is termed as grievous hurt under section 320 IPC.
- 3). The SC/ST Prevention of Atrocity act 1989: Atrocity act for SC/ST means an offence punishable under section 3 of the same act.
- 4). Molestation, As per IPC section 354: Whoever assaults or uses criminal force to any women intending to outrage or knowing is to be likely that he will there by outrage her modesty, shall he punishable under with imprisonment of either description for a term which may be extended to two years or with fine or with both.
- 5). Sexual Harassment, as per section 509: "Whoever, intending to insult the modesty of any woman, utter any words, make any sound or gesture, or exhibits any object, intending, that such words or sound shall be heard, or that such gesture or object shall be seen, by such woman or intrudes upon the privacy of such women, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both".
- 6). Cruelty by Husband or other male section 498(A): of the Indian Penal Code, which reads as follows: " Husband or relative of husband of a woman subjection her to cruelty.- whoever, being the husband or

relative or the relative of the husband of a woman subjects such woman to cruelty shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall be liable to fine".

7). Importation of Girls: For the purpose of prostitution the procurement of minor girls from one part of India to another part is an offence under section 366-A of the Indian penal code.

**Ingredients of the section are:**

- 1) Tempting or inducing a girl below the 18 years of age to go from any place or to do an act, and
- 2) With the knowledge or intention that the girl will even be forced to illicit sexual intercourse with a person.

The following is the chart showing the incidence of Crimes against Dalit women at National level.

**Table -1 Incidence of Crime on Dalit Women in India.**

Sl. No	Types	Figures	Percentage
1	Rape	2175	10.80
2	Hurt	5822	28.90
3	SC/ST Atrocity Act	7008	34.81
4	Molestation	3170	15.72
5	Sexual Harassment	1080	5.31
6	Cruelty by Husband	812	4.01
7	Imploration of girls.	27	0.13
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20094</b>	<b>100</b>

Nearly 105 crore people living of case in India do not allow a dalit women live happily, 2175 with 10.8% are the victims of rape as per the records of 2005, 5822 with 28.9% are victims of hurt, 7008 with 34.81% are victims under SC/ST Atrocity Act, 3170 with 15.72% Molestation, 1080 with 5.31% are victims of sexual harassment, 812 with 4.01% are victims of cruelty by Husband/Male, and lastly 27 with 0.13% are victims of Importation of Girls. Hence out of total women exploitation at national level 133681 with 20094 that is 15% dalit women are the victims of crimes.

**Table: 2 Incidence of Crime on Dalit Women in Karnataka.**

Sl. No	Types	Figures	Percentage
1	Rape	183	17.95
2	Hurt	317	31.1
3	SC/ST Atrocity Act	373	36.6
4	Molestation	47	4.61
5	Sexual Harassment	80	7.8
6	Cruelty By Husband	17	1.6
7	Importation of Girls	2	0.2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Where in nearly 5.5 crore people are living in Karnataka out of which 22% are SC/ST. Hence in Karnataka the incidence of crime against dalit women is 1019 with 5% of total victimization. Out of 1019, 183 with 17.95% are victims of Rape. 317 with 31.60% are victims of SC/ST Atrocity act 47 with 4.61% are victims of Molestation, 80 with 7.8% are victims of sexual Harassment, 17 with 1.6% are victims of Cruelty by Husband. 17 with 0.20% are victims of Importation of Girls.

**Table: 3 Incidence of Crime on Dalit Women in Dharwad District.**

Sl. No	Types	Figures	Percentage
1	Rape	12	18.18
2	Hurt	18	27.21
3	SC/ST Atrocity Act	21	31.81
4	Molestation	07	10.60
5	Sexual Harassment	6	9.5
6	Cruelty By Husband	2	3.3
7	Importation of Girls	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Similarly in Dharwad District the victimization of Dalit woman is as under.

As per the resent statistical records that is both Commissionerate and district Crime Records as shown in the table 3., Crime against dalit women are totally 66, out of 12 with 18.18% are victims of Rape. 18 with 27.12% victims Hurt, 21 with 31.81% are victims of Sc/ST Atrocity act, 7 with 10.6% are victims of Molestation, 6 with 9.5% are victims of Sexual Harassment., 2 with 3.3% are victims of Cruelty by husband. Though Importation of girls cases have been appeared in news paper and other Medias no such cases has been registered in 2005.

#### **Remedies**

The violence committed against women is to be curbed and controlled to bring harmony and peaceful atmosphere in family and society. Hence the enactment and enforcement of some measures.

- 1) Legal Remedies
- 2) Women's Empowerment
- 3) Social Reforms
- 4) Role of NGO's
- 5) Education for women
- 6) Moral Reformation of Dalit Woman.

#### **1) Legal Remedies**

The preventive Acts with punishments for certain crimes have been enacted to control and curb the offences relating to women.

- 1.a) Indian Penal Code 1860 with various punitive sections.
- 1.b) Dowry prohibition Act 1961.
- 1.c) The immoral Traffic (prevention) Act 1956.
- 1.d) Various Constitutional Facilities.
- 1.e) The prevention of Civil Rights act 1955.
- 1.f) The SC/ST Prevention Atrocity act 1989.

#### **2) Women's Empowerment**

Various programmes have been launched to bring equality between men and women and to lessen the violence against dalit women.

#### **(a) Policies and programmes of Govt.**

In the seventh 5 years plan some policies have been defined to bring welfare of women.

Besides Four points of 20 point programme also refer to women.

Under Government of India ministry of Agriculture Dept. of Rural Development has been estimated. The department has implemented various programmes.

- 1) Integrated Rural Development Programme



- 2) A national Scheme of Training of Rural youth for self employment
- 3) Development of women and children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)
- 4) National Rural Employment Programme
- 5) Integrated Child Development Services (Datta R. K., 2003)

If woman trains herself of right of private defense exercising some of the physical forces like karate, boxing, punching etc. shall enable her escape from violence.

### 3) Social Reforms

If a society regards and treats woman with importance that society is very good. Under the circumstances, Reservation for women in education and services has been of greater help, which not merely improves their economic status but also their contribution to maintenance shall confirm men of their help.

### 4) Role of NGO's

The establishment of Stri Shakti, Mahila Mandala, Swayam Seva Shakti etc. have been the efforts of NGO's to improve the status of women. The NGO's are playing a vital note in women's employment.

### 5) Necessary Education for Dalit women

Some of the Governmental programmes are toughly conducive to the problem are worthy of mentioning at the forum as the introduction of Annapurna, Bicycles for School going children, Bhagyalaxmi-Yozana etc. are more useful. An educated dalit woman becomes a conscious of her status and the protection provided by Govt, and there by brings to notice of authorities whenever there is a breach of the peace.

### 6) Moral Reformation of dalit Women.

The materialistic life, and craze for wealth and comforts have made the people's life dull and dry. Now if there is any sermon and lectures given to such people they may be inspired instigated to lead moral life. The spiritual and religious advice shall bring in a change in the standard of life. The compassion, sympathy and courteous attitude towards woman in society.

### Observation and Conclusion

When considered on all it is learnt that the crimes against women are more recurrent in Hubli-Dharwad city than rural places.

The dry dull scenarios the unemployment, greed for money etc. have been the matters of influence for the increasing incidence of crimes on dalit women in Dharwad district as learnt from the mouth of some victims in a case study.

Therefore if the legal and other measures are undertaken correctly the crimes against women will definitely decrease in the years to come.

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