TYPES OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN JALGAON DISTRICT: A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY

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Abstract:

A place where people settle is known as a settlement. Before the invention of agriculture human being was nomad. It is the most distinctive form of cultural landscape. Some geographers have considered site of settlement as criteria for the classification of rural settlements. But in present investigation total rural area, total rural population and number of rural settlements have considered as criteria for the classification of rural settlements. Mandal's statistical method is used to find out the dispersal index. Higher Dispersal Index Value shows compact settlements while lower Dispersal Index values indicate dispersed settlements. Compact settlements are found in Yawal, Raver and Jalgaon tehsils. Semi-Compact settlements are found in Bhadgaon, Erandol, Bhusawal and Chopda tehsils. Semi-sprinkled settlements are found in Chalisgaon, Pachora, Jamner, Bodwad and Muktainagar and Amalner, Dharangaon and Parola have dispersed settlements.

Key Words: *Compact, Dispersal, Rural Settlement, Semi-compact, Semi-sprinkled, Sprinkled.*

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1. Introduction:

Shelter is one of the basic human needs. A place where people settle is known as a settlement. Before the invention of agriculture human being was nomad. He used to collect food through gathering of fruits and roots or by hunting animal. The farming needed special attention and care and he was able to store the surplus food grain until the next harvest. This leads to the formation and development of permanent settlements. Permanent settlements are of two types. These are Rural Settlements and Urban Settlements. A settlement which has more than seventy

five percent population engaged in agriculture and allied activities is known as rural settlement. Hence rural settlement is also known as agricultural workshop.

Rural settlements are classified in different ways. Geographers have considered variety of criteria's for the classification of rural settlements. Some geographers have considered site of settlement as criteria for the classification of rural settlements. Different physical, socio-economic and cultural factors have an influence on the types of settlements. Their nature is uneven spatially and distribution of settlements is also not even everywhere. Hence different types of settlements found in different regions. According to Demanageon (1962) villages are compact in plain areas and dispersed in rugged or broken areas. But in the present investigation total rural area, total rural population and number of rural settlements have considered as criteria for the classification of rural settlements. In the present investigation an attempt has been made to find out the types of rural settlement and how physical, Socio-economic and cultural factors affects the present type of rural settlements in the study region.

2. The Study Region:

Jalgaon District is located in North westerner part of the Maharashtra state. It is 8th most populous and 13th ranked urbanized district out of 35 Districts in Maharashtra. As per 2011 censes, the district has 42,29,917 population out of which 31.74 percent (13,42,711) population is urban population. Jalgaon district has an area of 11,765 sq km and rich in volcanic soil. It is one of the district of Nashik administrative divisions. Jalgaon district is divided into 15 tahasil for administrative purpose. These tahasil are Jalgaon, Jammer, Erandol, Dharangaon, Bhusawal, Bodwad, Yawal, Raver, Muktainagar, Amalner, Chopada, Parola, Pachora, Chalisgaon and Bhadagaon. It is located between 20^0 to $21^02'$ North latitudes and 74^0 45' East to 76^0 28' East longitudes in the northwestern part of the state. It is bounded by Madhya Pradesh to the north and by the district of Dhule to the west, Aurangabad to the south, Jalana to the southeast, Nasik to the south west and Buldhan to the east.

3. Objectives:

The main objectives of the research work are as under:

  ➢ To study the geographical condition of Jalgaon District.
  ➢ To identify types of rural settlements in the Study Region.

➢ To examine the impact of geographical and socio-economic factors on the types of rural settlements in Jalgaon district.
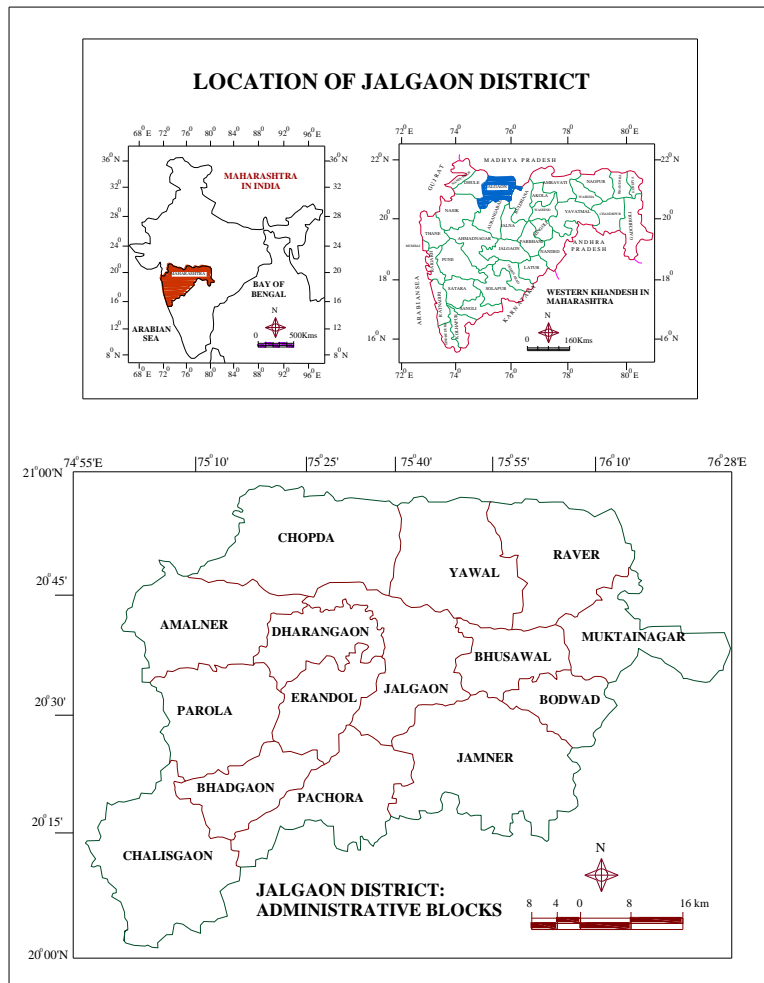

Figure: 1.1

4. Data Collection and Methodology:

This research work is entirely based on secondary sources of data. The data regarding total rural population, total geographical area and number of rural settlements have been collected from the District Census Hand Books of Jalgaon district for the year 2011. For finding out the dispersal index of settlement Mandal's method have been applied. With the help of Dispersal Index rural settlements in Jalgaon district have been grouped into certain types. Dispersal Index has been calculated with the help of following formula.

$$Dispersal\ Index = \frac{Average\ Population\ Size\ of\ Settlement\ (a)}{Average Spacing\ of\ Settlement\ (b)}$$

$$Average\ Population\ Size\ of\ Settlements\ (a) = \frac{Total\ Rural\ Population}{Number\ of\ Settlements}$$

$$Average\ Spacing\ of\ Settlement(b) = \sqrt{\frac{Total\ Rural\ Area}{No.of\ Settlements}}$$

After the calculation of Dispersal Index values are classified into four categories on the basis of mean and standard deviation methods. Higher Dispersal Index indicates compact settlements while lower Dispersal Index values indicate sprinkled or dispersed settlements. Results have been exhibited through table and choropleth method.

5.0 Subject Explanation:

The spatial pattern of rural settlements indicates that four types of settlements are observed in the study region. These are compact, Semi-compact, Semi-sprinkled and Sprinkled Settlements. The Dispersal Index Value ranges from 532.3 in Parola tehsil to 952.4 in Raver tehsil of Jalgaon district.

5.1. Compact Settlements:

Compact means close and tightly packs. These settlements are also known as nucleated or clustered settlements. Generally in nucleated settlements houses are constructed very close to each other and roads are very narrow. These settlements are observed in Jalgaon, Yawal and Raver tehsils. They are having more than 851.9 dispersal index value and located in north-eastern part of the region. (Figure: 1.2) In these tehsils average size of the rural settlements is large and they have high density of population. Agriculture is also very well developed in these tehsils due to the availability of fertile alluvial soils, sufficient amount of rainfall, comparatively plain region and development of transportation. Majority of rural settlements are being surveyed by different amenities like school, college, bank, hospital, clubs, post etc Because of all these facilities compact settlements have been development in these tehsils.

5.2. Semi-Compact Settlements:

Semi-compact settlements are intermediate type of settlements between nucleated and dispersed settlements. It is transitional phase in the growth of a compact settlement. These types of settlements are also known as quasi-compact settlement. Many a time's caste and class system may be leads to development of such types of settlements. In Jalgaon District such settlements are found in Bhadgaon, Erandol, Bhusawal and Chopda tehsils. They are having dispersal index value in between 735.6 to 851.8. Table: 1.1 Agriculture is the main occupation in these settlements which leads to the formation of semi-compact settlements in central part of the study region.

5.3. Semi-Sprinkled Settlements:

These types of settlements are found in the five tehsils lying along the southern border of the region. (Figure:1.2) These are Chalisgaon, Pachora, Jamner, Bodwad and Muktainagar. Generally Semi-sprinkled settlements are found in the areas of rugged topography and poor soils. Rugged topography and poor quality soils may be responsible factors for the formation and development of this type of settlements.

5.4. Sprinkled Settlements:

Sprinkled settlements are found in west-central part of the study region. Particularly these are found in Amalner, Dharangaon and Parola tehsils. (Figure:1.2) The dispersal index value for these tehsils is less than 640.5. Due to distance among settlements these settlements are also known as isolated settlements. Table 1.1 indicates that the average population size of settlements is also small in these tehsils. Generally caste system is considered as cause of formation of sprinkled settlements. Upper caste people occupy central part of the rural settlements. They do not want to live along with lower caste people. Consequently lower caste people are forced to live away from the main settlement. Hence, caste system may be responsible factors for the formation of such settlements.
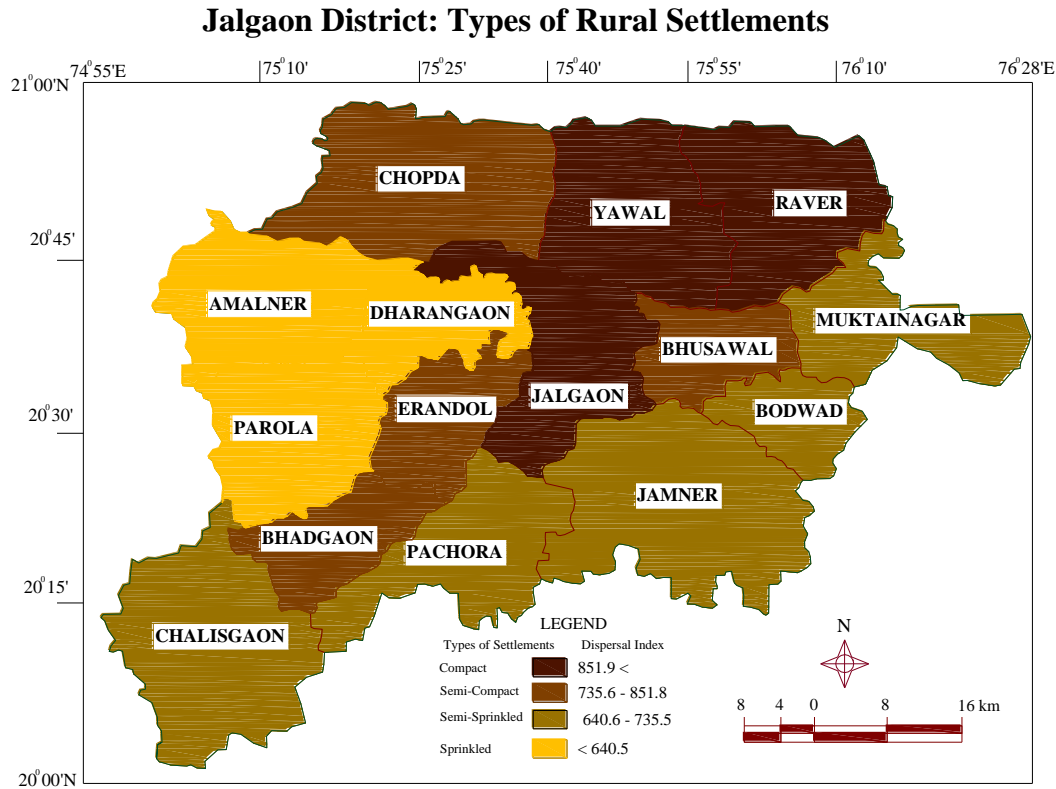
Jalgaon District: Types of Rural Settlements

Figure: 1.2

6. Conclusions:

1. The overall analysis of the t research work indicates that dispersal index value varies from 532.3 in Parola to 952.4 in Raver tehsil. Tehsils lying in the vicinity of Tapti River are having compact settlements. These are found in Yawal, Raver and Jalgaon tehsils.

2. Semi-Compact settlements are found in Bhadgaon, Erandol, Bhusawal and Chopda tehsils. They are having dispersal index value in between 735.6 to 851.8. These are located in central part of the study region.

3. Semi-Sprinkled settlements are found in the five tehsils namely Chalisgaon, Pachora, Jamner, Bodwad and Muktainagar. They are lying along the southern border of the Jalgaon district.

4. West-central part of the study region is witnessed for the Dispersed settlements. Particularly these are found in Amalner, Dharangaon and Parola tehsils. The dispersal index value for these tehsils is less than 640.5.

5. In nut shell it can be concluded that socio-economic, cultural and geographical factors have influence on the type of rural settlements in Jalgaon district. Their favorable nature leads to compact settlements while adverse condition leads to sprinkled settlements.

Table: 1.1

Types of Rural Settlements in Jalgaon District based on Dispersal Index

Sr. No.	Tehsil	Average Population Size of Settlement	Average spacing Size of Settlement	Dispersal Index
1	Chopda	2143.14	2.64	811.2
2	Yawal	2347.57	2.71	865.8
3	Raver	2279.82	2.39	952.4
4	Muktainagar	2043.05	2.81	728.2
5	Bodvad	1799.98	2.73	659.6
6	Bhusawal	2255.50	2.80	806.8
7	Jalgaon	2509.45	2.92	859.2
8	Erandol	2116.41	2.73	775.2
9	Dharangaon	1569.00	2.54	617.0
10	Amalner	1253.95	2.24	559.6
11	Parola	1396.46	2.62	532.3
12	Bhadgaon	2130.08	2.86	743.5
13	Chalisgaon	2159.85	2.95	731.5
14	Pachora	1823.87	2.51	727.8
15	Jamner	1931.18	2.91	663.9
	District	1941.63	2.68	724.6

Source: District Census Handbook of Jalgaon District, 2011

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