



## Impact of caste system and religion based discrimination on the rights of minorities in India in the 21st century

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### Abstract

Everyone has rights , as one is a human being and minority rights are Human rights . India is home to majority of the minority communities some have been part of the refugee movement , some came after the partition of India . Discrimination against minorities is very common and seen in all parts of the country . With the growing population in India , regarding Muslim as minority is unjustified , with its growing population , Dalits have become a victim of this murder , rape in the Indian society . Community segregation is found in many parts of the country , communal violence is increasing with each other, The government has launched many schemes and policies for the upliftment of the minority class , many services have not yet reach out to the public . Reservation of seats for the minorities have been seen in all sectors , however in private sectors many are not accepted caste system is a problem in India . In order to protect the minority rights , we need to treat them equally and put an end to inequality followed by empower minority women which is necessary to end violence against Dalit women in India.

**Keywords:** Human rights , minority rights , reservation , Muslims, Dalit , community segregation

### Introduction

India is home to a number of religion , It is the birth place of religions like Hinduism , Buddhism and Sikh . Here Sikh , Muslim , Jain , Buddhism ,Christian religion are considered minorities apart from them we have the Schedule caste , Schedule Tribes and Dalits who constitute a small population . Minorities in India were earlier a victim of discrimination , violence , murder and rape . They was social based discrimination , race , religion and culture . The minorities in particular the Muslims , SCs and STs have faced more problems compared to the rest . Today , India has introduced many laws for the protection of minority rights , the construction provides special provisions for the minority groups and plus individual states have also taken initiative to bring the minorities into the limelight . In India the Hindus consist of the majority of the population 79.8% , followed by which we have Islam 14.2% , Christian 27.8% Buddhism comprises of 7%

, Sikh 1.7% , Jainism 4% . The other indigenous group are Dalit which comprise of 16.6% and Scheduled Tribes 8.6% .India has the maximum Muslim population in the world even more than Middle East and North Africa . In every state of India you will find a minority group living . India is known as a state of minority moreover with India accepting massive refugees specially from Bangladesh or the illegal entry of Bangladesh in India has maximized the Muslim religion in India . India is famous for its Hinduism , it has growth over the year with traditional and culture practices and shaped many religions. India Hinduism has a caste system , social stratification which divides them into four varnas which has also contributed and given rise to minorities in terms of indigenous groups . The discrimination against the Dalit is very much since in different parts of the country , even after the abolition of untouchability in India . Even during the Muslim entered India the discrimination against Dalit was practiced which is even practiced today in the 21st century , after so many changes and schemes introduced for the upliftment of the Minorities , reservation of seats for the Minorities group have brought them into the mainstream in schools , college and in the employment sector . We have so many mosques , Gurudwara in India , the maximum number . We see so many Sikh running high class business and also are one of the richest group in India , if we see in Punjab especially in Chandigarh and Monali . In many states the Muslim population over rules the Hindus . The Muslim in India are much more respected and enjoy more freedom compared to many of other countries with high Muslim population like Pakistan .There have been several schemes introduced by different government who so have been in power to up lift the position of minorities especially economically and provide them educational and political rights .

### Research Methodology

For the purpose of this exploration , I have used a amalgamation of two of the archetypical social sciences research tools application –as they are authentic and brilliant method to assemble statistics from multiple appellants in a methodical and convenient way . Question were asked to the common youth , public policy Analyst , Muslim , Christians community ,Dalits , majority community STs ,survey , interviews –consisting of several interrogation which were dispersed among representative of each contender group .

### Objective of the Research Paper

The main areas of exploration in this paper incorporates

1. Who are the minorities in India .
2. Crimes and discrimination faced by the Minorities community in India .
3. What are the different schemes launched by the government for the Minority community .
4. What can be done in the future to promote Minority rights .

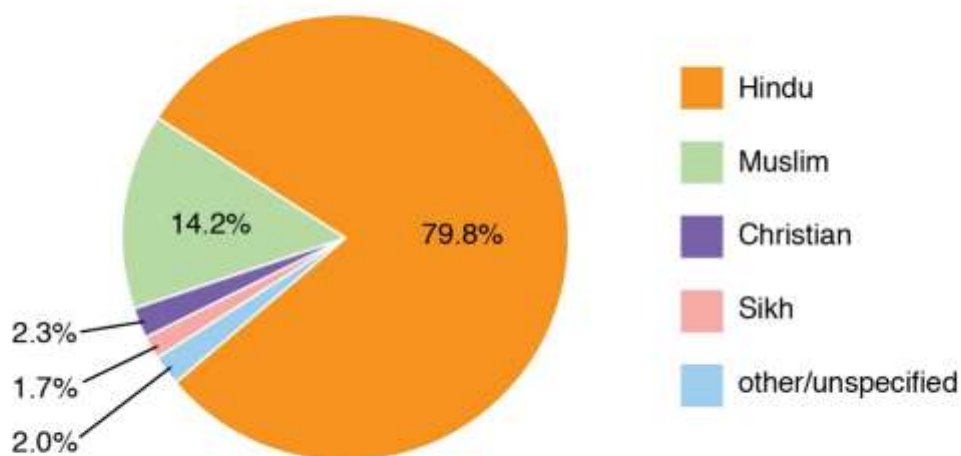
### Literature Review

Article 25 of the constitution provides us with the right to practice , profess any religion of its choice and which includes the minority religious group rights, one-fifth of India's population is minority . Article 14 , 15 , 16 , 19 and 29 are some fundamental rights which is guaranteed to all its citizens . Article 30 in particular is for the protection of Minority right in India , we have provisions for the reservation of seats as per the constitution for the Scheduled caste , Scheduled tribe in the educational , Lok Sabha , State legislative assembly .We have many schemes for the betterment of the minorities which would include Usttad – The minority communities in India are famous for their traditional arts and skill due to high competitive market , it becomes difficult for them to cope with the international and national market so the government aimed to preserve rich heritage and traditional craft of minorities , the schemes aims to connect the traditional work with national and international market to ensures the value of labour , it is practiced in all part of the country. Skill development and capacity development artisans and weaver were part of the scheme, Hamari Dharohar notion is the preserve the heritage and cultural of the minority communities , Khwaza Garib Nawaz Senior Secondary School this has been opened in Ajmer with the aim to work on minority education . Prime Minister Modi has launched many schemes for the Minority development which include Sava Shiksha

Abhiyaan , for the educational empowerment we have different scholarship schemes , Maulana Azad National Fellowship , Padho Pardesh for educational loan for oversea studying and Minority community , Naya Savera which provides free coaching and Allied Schemes . Nai Udaan , for economic empowerment we have Seekho and Kamao , USTTAD and Nai Manzil , Concessional credit through National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation. For infrastructure Development we have the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram. .We also have development of minority women schemes like Nai Roshni , then Jiyo Parsi scheme for containing population decline of Parsis in India . Qaumi Waqf Board Taraqqiati Scheme , Shahari Waqf Sampatti Vikas Yojana , support for institutions , For the SC student we have scheme like Pre-matric scholarship to the students of class 10 and 12 , Post matric scholarship for SC Students , National overseas schemes , National fellowship for Scheduled Caste students . Babu Jagjvan Ram chhatrawas Yojana , Free coaching schemes for SC and OBC students , Credit enhancement Guarantee Scheme for the scheduled caste , Scheme of Assistance to SCs Development Corporation ,Venture Capital Fund for SC, National SCs Finance and Development Corporation , Nationals safai Karmcharis Finance and Development Corporation followed by which we have the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana . The government has announced in 2020 , 59,000 crore for post Matric Scheme for the Scheduled caste it will provide scholarships to above 600 students every year .

## Findings

### Religious affiliation (2011)



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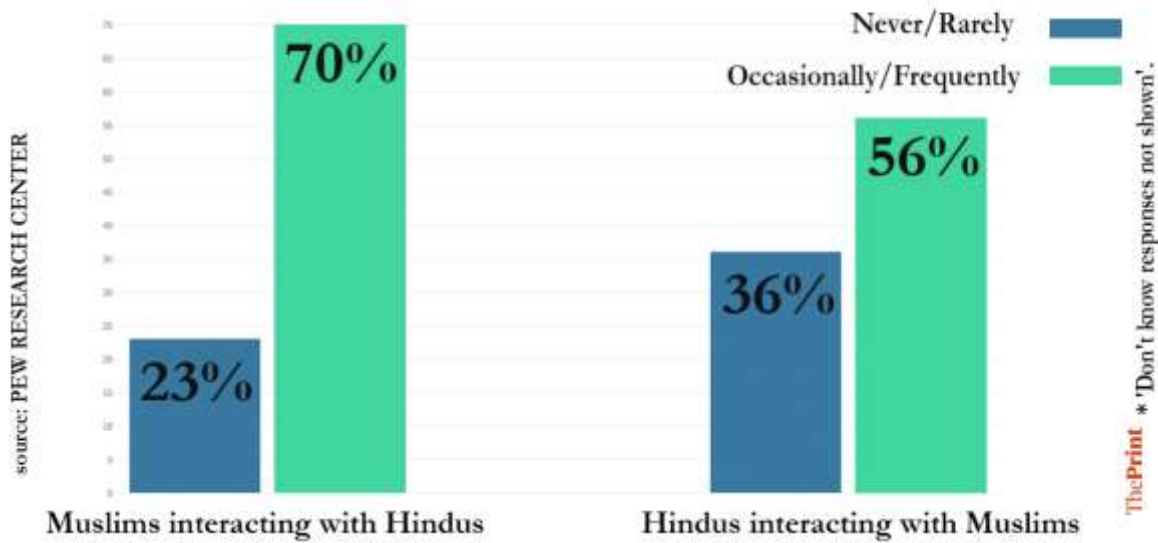
India is a country where discrimination has prohibited many people from being successful and in the overall development of the economy . Inequality is prevalent in India since a long time , the tag of minority and label of belonging to a minority class or group didn't allow equality to exist in the country , Communal riots is very common in India in particular between the Hindus and Muslim community , the Hindus and the Muslim burn each other homes , murder each other community people .we are seeing communal segregation taking place in majority of the cities like in Ahmendabad , we have separate parts of a city for Muslims and Hindus, the region has experienced more than 100 communal riots between the two communities .Even in Nodia , Delhi , you wont find Hindus and Muslim living in the same building or apartment . There are particular regions or locality just for the Muslim people . The Dalit might still find a house for himself in apartment but not a Muslim so fast , the lifestyle and eating habits have an influence on the community , In many homes and locality , a upper caste Hindu will not sit with a lower caste Dalit and each his /her food , they are suppose to sit on the floor and eat in a separate room and a separate set of utensils . In many buildings which are owned by the Hindu people , who are restricted to eat Non-Veg , followed by a tribal community member is



not accepted , inter caste marriage people have a lot of problems in finding a home for themselves , a upper class Hindu cant marry in a minority .

Percentage in each group say they \_\_ interact with people who have different religious views

# India



In schools and colleges seats are reserved for the Scheduled caste and Scheduled tribes , they are provided admission in private schools run by Hindu , you will find that they don't get opportunities to represent the college or school at national levels , in spite their capabilities . There are many Christian schools and colleges running in India since the time of British rule who actually started Christian missionaries school , where there are special reservation for the scheduled tribes and Christian students , where the minority students are Hindus , in fact there are many Muslims schools and colleges where only Muslim students are accepted , even if it is one of the best colleges in the country you will find very few Hindu students being accepted and they have to face discrimination. We have encountered cases where many Hindus have converted themselves to Christian as they can get ample benefits and opportunities in India and in the Foreign countries where Christianity is the second largest religion in the world . During the Mughal Empire , many Hindu used to join the Mughal as they wanted to get rid of the caste system.



**25%** of Dalits who responded said they had faced **verbal or physical assault** based on their Caste.



**ONE IN THREE** Dalit students report being **discriminated against during their education.**



**TWO OUT OF THREE** Dalits surveyed reported being **treated unfairly at their workplace.**



**60%** of Dalits report experiencing **Caste-based derogatory jokes** or comments.



**40%** of Dalits and **14%** of Shudra respondents were made to feel **unwelcome at their place of worship** because of their Caste.



**20%** of Dalit respondents report feeling **discriminated at a place of business** because of their Caste.



**OVER 40%** of Dalit Respondents have reported being **rejected in a Romantic Partnership** on the basis of Caste.



**ONE IN TWO** of all Dalit respondents and **ONE IN FOUR** of all Shudra respondents **live in fear of their Caste being “outed.”**

It was after a long period of time that discrimination against the Dalit started in India, before the British entered India, all the children of Dalit were educated and were one of the richest member of the society the artisans, weavers and farmers. The Dalit discrimination was enhanced with the British rulers in India, in the past there have been called untouchables and where not allowed to visit places meant for the upper Hindu, after the abolition of article 17 that is untouchability, we see that the practice is still prevalent in many of the North Indian states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi. We have see so many cases of Dalit murder, Dalit women getting raped incident happening all around the country, a dalit is brutally killed because he drinks water from the community tap water and many such incidents have been reported.

Coming to the Muslim community which we can't be declared anymore a minority in India with it growing population, Muslim have been discrimination in the Indian society and are not provided with all the rights particularly when it comes to job opportunities, Young Muslim students are killed on the notion that they are terrorist. Most of the attack on India was caused by Muslim Terrorist, the frequency bomb blast are caused by Muslim terrorist groups in India but not all bomb blast, there have been cases where for no reasons the Indian police and other people have murderer or charged cases against Muslim, every Muslim in India can't be declared as a Terrorist. Even after the Abolition of Article 370 from the constitution, there have been constant cases of violence, murder happening in Kashmir between the Hindus and Muslims, attacks from Pakistan has also be noted. Apart from that we have many Film stars who are Muslims and are living a very good life in India.

In India there are only a few states where the population of Hindus are in minorities in states like Lakshadweep, Kashmir, West Bengal, Ladakh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar here the Muslim population is more, Christians are found in Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Manipur, Nagaland, Goa and West Bengal, they form a majority still considered as a minority. Sikh are basically found in Punjabi, Haryana, Delhi and Chandigarh and the Buddhist are found in the Ladakh, Sikkim region.

## Way Forward

India is home to majority of the minorities in the world. The government has introduced a huge number of schemes for the development of minorities in the educational, economy and infrastructure development, with scholarships facilitates and other provisions to bring them into the main stream but all the services haven't reached out to the public yet, the Dalits and tribal population are facing humongous problems in exercising their rights in daily life, they are becoming a product of brutality and murder. Hindu-Muslim Communal riots are not ending, even in this deadly corona virus time, there were separated arrangement made in Ahmendabad for treatment in hospital. We need to bring an end to inequality on the basis of caste and religion. Religion tolerance should be propagated, with equal opportunities on the basis of qualification in the employment and college leave. Equality if promoted in the true sense of the term, reservation of seats will no more be required. Caste system and the prevalent untouchability practiced in a hidden manner should be brought to an end. Strong laws should be made and punishment should be imposed on people who are committing any kind of illegal activity against the tribes or Dalit. The education system should progress and teach on communal harmony and put an end to the old history of British ruler and Mughal empire stories which influence the young brain with hatred segments. Unity and integrity is very important to maintain peace in the country. With increase communal violence and support from Naxalite and neighbours, the internal security of India is in danger. We need to bring in a positive attitude towards all religion and minorities and practice Democracy in its true sense.

## Conclusion

Today with the growing population in India, India's minority rate has also increased, we have a lot of Muslims refugee living here, With the growing population of Muslims and Christians in India, we shouldn't put them into the minority category. Today we have many indigenous groups and other minority like SC and ST who are a product of a lot of criminal activities, Crimes against Dalits are on a rise with each passing day, they are brutally killed and murdered. The government have brought in new schemes for their empowerment along with the constitution who have articles made for their provisions. Crimes against minorities are at a rise which is having an effect on the overall economic growth and further escalating the poverty rate in India. Minorities rights are important and it is part of their Human rights which they should be provided as one is a human being.

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