



CHANGING SCENARIO OF THE JAJIMANI SYSTEM

- Role of Rural-Modernization, Urbanisation, Industrialisation.

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Abstract

The Jajmani system is the traditional jati-based division of labor in Indian villages. It is the system of exchange of goods and services between the members of a different cast. Jajmani system is interconnected with the caste system. That apart the Kamin also depends upon his jajmans for his accommodation and places for grazing the animals. Rural- Modernization, Urbanisation, Industrialisation has been regarded as the major economic and social roles leading to economic development. The introduction of the cash economy has also brought about changes because payments in the jajmani system were always in kind rather than in cash.

The Jajmani system lost its existence as people migrated to the cities due to rural- Modernization, Urbanisation, Industrialisation.

Keywords: Jajimai system, Rural, Modernization, Urbanisation, Industrialisation.

Introduction

This paper aims to address changing scenario of the jajimani system. The Jajmani system is the traditional jati-based division of labor in Indian villages. It is the system of exchange of goods and services between the members of a different cast. It is an important institution that developed during the medieval period and continued till modern times in rural society. It consists of a set of traditional rules about the exchange of products and services between the members of different castes. The jajmani system is a system of economic, social, and ritual ties among different caste groups in a village.

The jajmani system is ideologically connected with and justified through religion, thus contributing to maintaining notions about purity and impurity and relative rank within the caste system. The jajmani system

is characterized by the permanency of the relationship between the jajman and the kamin, hereditary relationship, payment of goods against service, peace and contentment difference in scope of work, etc.

Role and Function of Jajmani System:

Analysing the functions of the Jajmani System, several sociologists have given the functions of the Jajmani system after different case studies. Jajmani system maintains and regulates the division of labor and economic inter-dependence of caste. Edmund R. Leach (1960) Jajmani system serves to maintain the Indian village as a self-sufficient community. William H. Wiser (1967)

Jajmani system distributes agricultural produce in exchange for menial and craft services. Gould has studied the jajmani system in Sherupur village in Faizabad district In U.P. (1954-55). He also found different considerations that Kamins get from the jajman like free food, free residence, free clothing, free food for animals, free timber, free dung, rent-free land, and credit facilities, etc. Gould has also studied the formal rate at which jajmans paid to Kamins for the services rendered. Harold Gould (1987)

Norms and Values Concerning the Jajmani System

In the jajmani system, the method of payment, in all parts of the country, was more or less equal. It was made during the harvesting season. At that time the Kamins was getting some newly produced crops from the families of landowning farmers. But payment of these food grains is only a part of what the Kamins family is entitled to get. That apart the Kamin also depends upon his jajmans for his accommodation and places for grazing the animals.

Changing scenario of jajmani system

The jajmani system has undergone many significant changes in the last sixty years. In the village, not every caste participates in this system. In addition to the jajmani relation, there has always been contractual, wage labor type of ties between the providers of goods and services and their buyers. With the rise of backward class movements in the recent past, a certain caste part of the jajmani system has withdrawn from it.

The introduction of the cash economy has also brought about changes because payments in the jajmani system were always in kind rather than in cash. With the ever-expanding commercial frontiers, new opportunities have come up in towns and cities, and many occupational castes have sought to take advantage of this situation. They move to participate in these opportunities after seeking withdrawal from the jajmani ties.

Rural - modernization

Rural development is the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in rural areas. According to the 2011 Census, 68.84% of the population lives in villages. The backwardness of the rural sector would be a major impediment to the overall progress of the economy. The economic dimension encompasses providing both capacity and opportunities for the poor and low-income households, in particular, to benefit from economic growth. The social dimension supports the social development of poor and low-income households promotes gender equality and women's empowerment and provides social safety nets for vulnerable groups. Rural modernization has had a major impact on the jasmine system.

Due to the Impact of modernization, the jajmani system is getting disintegrated. The influence of lifestyle, modern education, western culture has become the barrier in the jajmani system. The decline in the Jajmani system can be attributed to changes in hereditary occupation. The rapid expansions of means of transport and communication have enabled the people to receive improved services somewhere else.

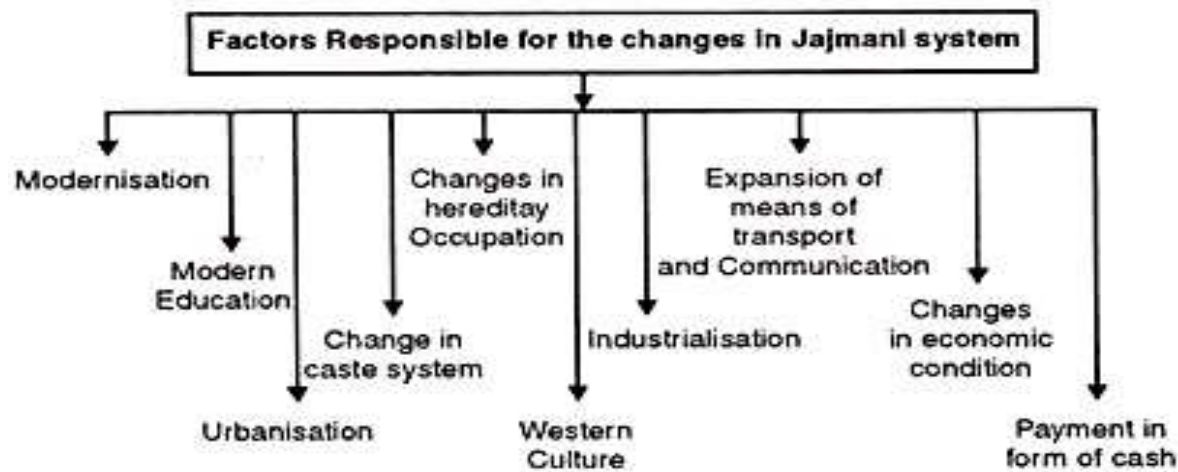
Rural - urbanization

Rural urbanization is a product of a range of push and pulls factors that result in people from rural-regional areas moving to cities and small and intermediate towns. Many have little choice but to live in small scattered urban settlements in peri-urban areas of cities and towns, or along urban transportation corridors. Urbanization is a counter-cyclical process to rural urbanization, comprising a small but increasing flow of urban wealthy and diaspora who are buying back and developing in predominantly rural regional towns. The Jajmani system lost its existence as people migrated to the cities due to rural urbanization.

Rural - Industrialization

Rural industrialization has been regarded as one of the major economic and social roles leading to economic development. The major objective of rural industrialization is to generate numerous employment opportunities for the individuals; therefore, they can alleviate the conditions of poverty and promote better livelihoods opportunities for themselves, thus the rural people are opposed to the jasmine system. There are several factors responsible for the disintegration of the jajmani system in India.

These factors are:



Conclusion

The economic conditions of the people have changed due to the impact of rural modernization, urbanization, and industrialization. So, it comes in the way of the jajmani system. The barter system of exchange is now almost extinct. Now payment in form of cash is made. Broad changes in the caste system also come in the way of the jajmani system. Jajmani system which was once useful In Indian rural society has gradually seen reduced to the exploitation of the lower castes. Jajmani system is interconnected with the caste system. They are employed in industries, after which their lifestyle and habits change along with coming to a better understanding of education. Due to the above conditions, rural people are settling in towns and hence the jammer system is affected.

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