Role of Jat Community for Environment Conservation: A Case Study in Village Kungar Bhiwani District, Haryana

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ABSTRACT　*Environment means all the natural surroundings such as land, air, water, plants, animals, solid materials, garbage, sun, forest and other objects. The healthy environment maintains the balance of nature as well as helps in growing, nurturing and developing all living things on the earth. An Environment is a key for the existence of life on the earth. However, now some technological advances have resulted in man-made things distorting the environment in many ways, which is ultimately spoiling the balance of nature. We are endangering our lives as well as the existence of life on this planet in the future. It is well known that occurrence of a high proportion of diseases and deaths across the world are associated with environmental pollution. The natural environment is a gift of nature and we need to conserve it for the benefit of living in future. This is an effort to characterize the role of Jat community for environment conservation.*

Key words: *Environment, Nature, Conservation.*

Introduction

A clean environment is very important for living a peaceful and healthy life. But due to human negligence, our environment is becoming dirty day by day. Water comprises nearly 80% of total body mass. It is the medium for all the reaction and physiological processes in the body. If the very water is contaminated by filth or toxins or even disease-causing microbes like bacteria, then that water is a great risk to drink. The presence of plants, trees, and greenery is essential in the environment for rainfall, fresh air, and water. Plants and trees are also keys in the importance of the environment. Plants which include trees, shrubs, bushes and even small grass help in purifying the air as they generate oxygen and take up carbon-dioxide. Thus they keep oxygen levels in the air at optimum and also decrease the global warming component of air i.e. carbon-dioxide. Today, Environment conservation is a serious challenge faced by policy makers, planners, scientists, and academicians. The problem is really grown in developing countries where the population is growing fast, development has picked up and pollution of the environment is alarmingly high. But still day by day the bad environment condition reflects in local newspapers. Therefore it is necessary to study the conservation of the environment. So, we have selected a case study in village Kungar Bhiwani District, Haryana.
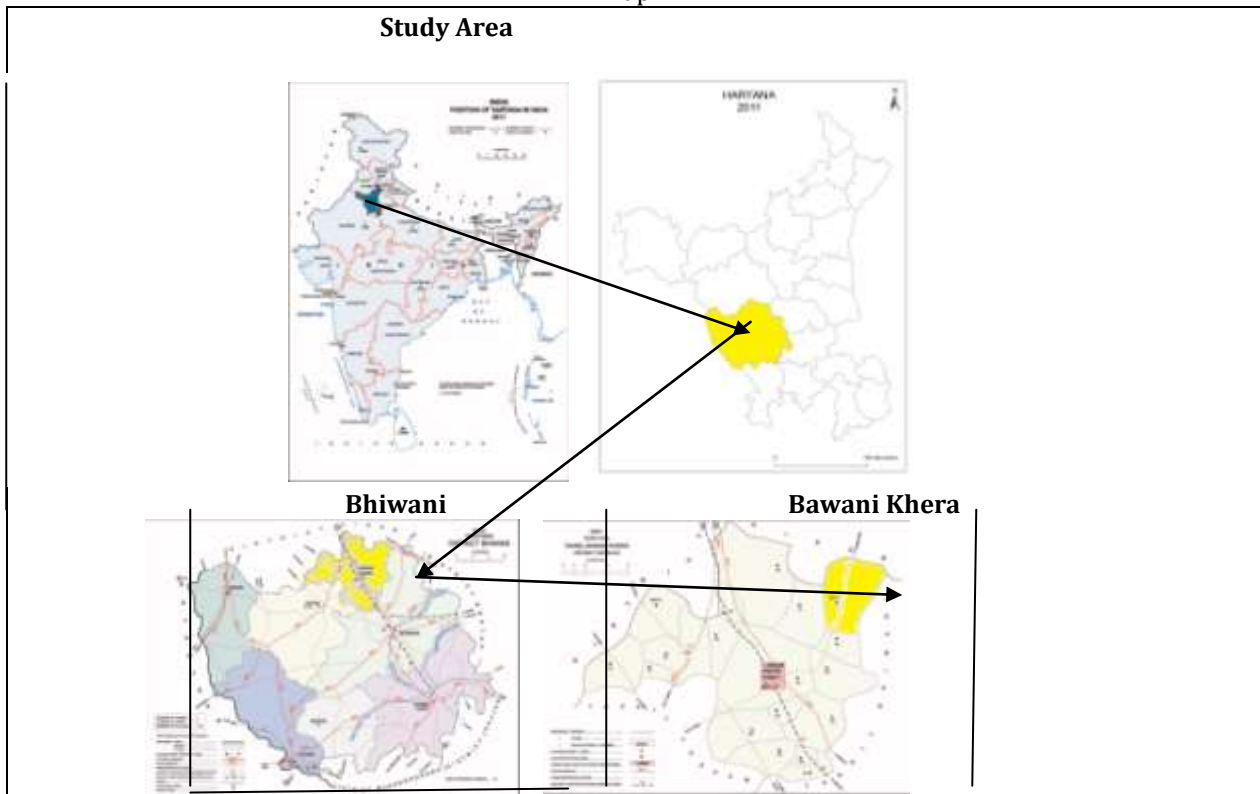
Objective and Methodology

To find out how the Jat community is called the first environmental preservationist?
The research is based on primary data (Field Survey). It has been generated through a household survey. In Kungar village 1902 households and we take 100 households of Jat community. We took the sample of 100 people of Jat community (70 male and 30 female). The data has been collected through random sampling. The collected data will be sorted out, arranged, processed and then presented in tables. Arc map will be used to show the research study area. The secondary sources used for the map of India, Haryana, Bhiwani and Bawani Khera. We have also used the Census of India 2011, data.

Study Area

Kungar is a village in the Bhiwani district of Haryana which lies in the north-west part of the country. The study area is located 32 kilometers north of the district headquarter, Bhiwani.
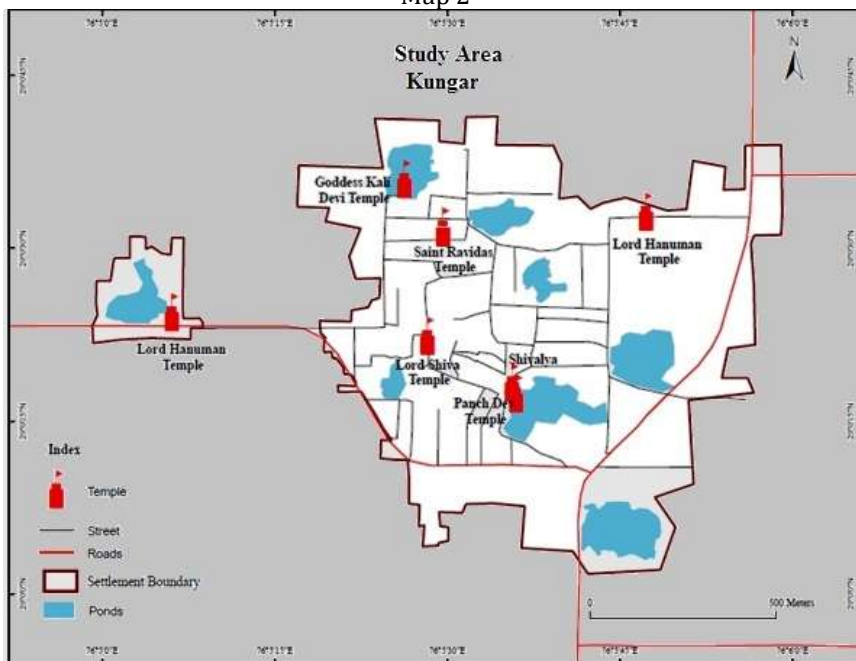
Map 1

Study Area

Source-Census of India, 2011

The Kungar village is located between 29° 00' 00.85'' to 29° 00' 40.57'' north latitude and 76°04' 47.19'' to 76°06' 00.51''east longitude (Google Earth, 2017). Kungar derives its name from a very famous landowner Kuvar Singh. Before other people coming here, they used to live near the hill of Dosi. There was only one house in the Jat community. That is why they were tortured. One day all of them came here after fighting with the people of the Dosi. That's why they got the name Goyat. Then they it came and settled down.

Map 2

Source: Google Earth, 14/25/2016, Arc GIS 9.3

As of the 2011 Census of India, the village had 1,902 households with a population of 9,846 in which 5,292 persons were male and 4,554 were females. Kungar is in two divisions: Chota Pana and Bada Pana.

Result and Discussion
As the awareness of environmental protection is increasing throughout the country, Kungar village has a lot of awareness of the environment.

Jat community is the first environmental preservationist
When we asked respondents 90% told them the first environmental preservationist community in India because they religious tenets have provision for the protection of the environment.

Table 1
Distribution of Respondents by Sex and Response that why do Jat Preserve the environment?

Sex	Community tradition	Scientific concern	Govt. role	Role of NGO	Total
Male	55(78.57)	10(14.28)	4(5.71)	1(1.42)	70
Female	19(63.33)	8(26.66)	3(10)	0	30
Total	74	18	7	2	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 1 shows 74% respondents say that they preserve the environment because of community tradition. 18% respondents say that they preserve the environment because of scientific concern. Male (78.57) more follow the community tradition than female (63.33). More female says that they protect the environment because of scientific concern. Mostly young respondent says they preserve the environment for scientific concern.

Jat is an eco-friendly community because they believe all living being has equal right to utilize the resource of Mother Earth. All the Jat respondents are agreeing with that the green cover and dense vegetation help in mitigation of drought.

Table 2
Distribution of Respondents by Sex and Choice Revered Tree

Sex	Triveni(Banyan, Peepal, Neem)	Peepal	Blackberry	Other	Total
Male	55(78.57)	5(7.14)	3(4.28)	7(10)	70
Female	20(66.66)	3(10)	2(6.66)	5(16.66)	30
Total	75	8	5	12	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 2 shows that 75 percent respondents give preference to Triveni. But male (78.57%) give more preference to Triveni trees than the female (66.66%). 8 percent respondent give the preference to Peepal trees but female give more preference in the comparison of the male. Triveni is considered the most sacred group of the tree in Jat community. There is a scientific fact behind this because these three trees release oxygen all the time. Triveni is a group of three trees which is worshipped by a large number of people such Jat community. Women give importance to Peepal in worship.

Table 3
Distribution of Respondents by Sex and Choice Revered Animal/Birds

Sex	Cow	Peacock	Cat	Other	Total
Male	50(71.42)	10(14.28)	7(10.00)	3(4.28)	70
Female	15(50.00)	5(16.66)	4(13.44)	6(20.00)	30
Total	65	15	11	9	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 3 shows 65 percent give the preference of the cow but male (71.42%) more preference to cow than the female (50.00%). A cow is the only animal on Earth that receives oxygen and releases oxygen 15 percent give the preference of peacock but female (13.44) more preference to cat then the males respondent. 20 percent female preference gives the other animal like buffalo, ox, and dog etc.

Table 4
Distribution of Respondents by Sex and stated contribution in the management of stray animals

Sex	Donation in Gaushala	Providing fodder	Other	Total
Male	40(57.14)	20(28.56)	10(14.28)	70
Female	15(50.00)	10(33.33)	5(16.66)	30
Total	55	30	15	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 4 shows that 55 percent respondent male (57.14%) and female (50.00%) says that they give contribution in the management of stray animals by donation in Gaushala. Female (33.33%) and male (28.56%) they give the contribution by providing the fodder. 15 percent respondent say they give the contribution in another way like make pond.

Apart from this, a number of other works have also been undertaken, thereby awareness of environmental protection in the village. It is important to run clean village campaign in such works. The entire Jat community participated in it. Planting is being done at large level in the village. An example of this is seen in the village as Lado Park. Under this, the girls of the village planted on the empty ground. People's awareness of the environment also appears with plants planted near the canal.

Conclusions

Jat community has presented a good example of environmental protection in the village. 74 percent of the respondent in the village says that the community tradition is the main reason for environmental conservation. The younger generation is also thinking about its scientific concern. Jat is the eco-friendly community because they believe all living being has equal right to utilize the resource of Mother Earth. 75% respondents consider Triveni (a group of three trees) as his first choice that is why there are many places of Triveni in the village. There is a scientific fact behind this because these three trees release oxygen all the time. The most popular animals in the village are the cow; almost 65% of the people regard it as their first choice. The cow is the only animal on Earth that receives oxygen and releases oxygen. All the respondents told that they donate regularly at the cowshed and also provide fodder in stray animals. Seven ponds visible on the village map are examples of their contribution. Cleanliness drive run by the community and Lado Park reflects the village's awareness of the environment. Plants planted on the canal are also the house of many birds. There are many reasons in this way that Jat is said to first environment preservationist.

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