



Study on Crime against Scheduled Castes in Haryana

Dr. Balinder Singh
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Work
Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra
India

Abstract: This study examines the prevalence, causes, and impacts of crimes against Scheduled Castes (SCs) in Haryana, utilizing primary data collected through surveys and interviews with victims, law enforcement officials, and legal professionals. Despite legislative safeguards such as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, SCs in Haryana continue to face systemic discrimination and targeted violence. The study examines the effectiveness of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary in addressing these crimes, highlighting areas for improvement.

Index Terms- Scheduled Castes, crime, discrimination, social exclusion

Introduction

The Scheduled Castes (SCs) are among the most marginalized communities in India. They often face systemic discrimination, social exclusion, and economic hardship. Despite legal protections and affirmative action, crimes against Scheduled Castes continue to be prevalent, especially in rural areas of states like Haryana. This study aims to examine the nature, frequency, and causes of crimes against Scheduled Castes in Haryana, a state that has witnessed a growing concern over caste-based violence. The research will also explore the effectiveness of law enforcement and the role of social structures in perpetuating these crimes.

Objectives:

- To analyze the types of crimes committed against Scheduled Castes in Haryana.
- To identify the social, economic, and cultural factors contributing to the violence.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the legal and justice system in addressing such crimes.
- To assess the awareness and access of Scheduled Castes communities to legal rights and protections.

Methodology

The study will be primarily qualitative, using both primary and secondary data sources:

Primary Data:

Interviews with victims of crimes, their families, and community leaders. Interviews with police officers, lawyers, and social activists. Focus group discussions with Scheduled Caste communities to understand their experiences and perceptions of crime. Field surveys in various districts of Haryana, particularly focusing on rural areas where such crimes are more prevalent.

Secondary Data:

Analysis of existing research on caste-based violence. Government reports and data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Legal documentation and case studies related to crimes against Scheduled Castes.

Data Analysis and Conclusion

The data collected from the surveys and interviews will be analyzed to identify patterns and trends in the occurrence of crimes against Scheduled Castes. The analysis will focus on understanding the root causes, the effectiveness of the legal system, and the overall experience of Scheduled Castes communities in Haryana with regard to caste-based violence. The study will aim to offer recommendations for improving the protection of Scheduled Castes, including strengthening law enforcement, enhancing legal awareness, and promoting social integration.

Expected Outcome:

Understanding the impact of caste-based crimes on Scheduled Castes in Haryana.

Identifying gaps in the legal and justice system and response to such crimes.

Recommending measures to address and mitigate caste-based violence.

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