

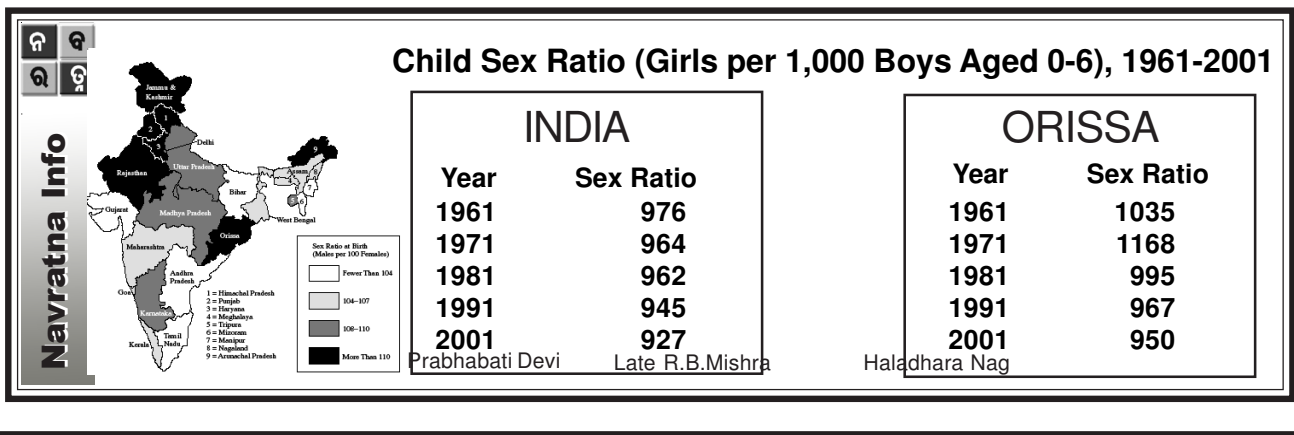
FEMALE MORTALITY & SEX RATIO IN WESTERN ORISSA

By.Trinath Prasad Tripathy

Sex composition of the human population is one of the basic demographic characteristics, which is extremely vital for any meaningful demographic analysis. Indian Census has the tradition of bringing out disaggregated information by sex on various aspects of population. The first and foremost is the simple count of males and females. Changes in sex composition largely reflect the underlying socio-economic and cultural patterns of a society in different ways. Sex ratio defined as the number of females per 1000 males in the population, is an important social indicator to measure the extent of prevailing equity between males and females in a society at a given point of time. It is mainly the outcome of the interplay of sex differentials in mortality, sex selective migration, sex ratio at birth and at times the sex differential in population enumeration. It is natural for an ordinary person to believe that males and females in the population exactly balance each other. Little do they know how imbalanced the sexes are in different populations across the world. It has been estimated that around the year 2000, the world had 986 females against 1000 males. According to the Census of India, 2001, the sex ratio stands at 933 for the country as a whole. This is a welcome improvement from the 1991 Census, which had

recorded 927 females for every 1000 males. Present the trend in sex ratio in India since 1901. The sex ratio in the country had always remained unfavorable to females. Moreover, barring some hiccups, it has shown a long term declining trend. The sex ratio at the beginning of the twentieth century was 972 and thereafter showed continuous decline until 1941. In 1951 there was a marginal increase of one point, but thereafter it again dropped for two consecutive decades to reach 930 in 1971. In fact, between 1961-71, the country saw the sharpest decline of 11 points in the sex ratio. Thereafter, it has fluctuated marginally around 930 in successive censuses.

Sex-ratio is a three tier phenomenon. First, it means the number of females per 1000 males in respect to the total population. Secondly, sex-ratio at birth indicates the number of female children born per 1000 males children. Thirdly, sex-ratio in the lowest age group among children from birth to six years. As per 2001 census, the overall sex ratio of India is 933 females per 1000 males which is less than the overall international sex-ratio of 986 females per 1000 males (Census, 2001).





Sex ratio Western Orissa/ Costal Orissa

In Orissa there are 1037 female for every 1000 male in the year 1901 but as per the resent 2001 census report female ratio goes down to 972 , means there are 972 female for every thousand male .But during the census period in 1911 it was 1056, in 1921 (1086) .1931 (1067), 1941 (1053), 1951 (1022), 1961 (1001).1971 (988), 1981 (981)1991 (971) & in 2001 it is calculated as 972. As per 2001 cencus it was obsured that the child population between the age-group of 0-6 years varies between 1002 to 901 , It is highest 1002 in Nabarangpur district ,and lowest 901 in Nayagarh district .In the national level the rank of Nayagarh dist is 11th & Nayagarh in the 465 th position .In case of Western Orissa Kalahandi district occupies 20th position with a higher sex ratio of 990 female for every thousand male , similarly Sundargarh dist occupies 71st position with sex ratio of 974 female. Accordingly Nuapada 100th , Balangir 126th, Sambalpur 161st,Debgarg 171st, Boudh 172nd ,Subernapur 183rd Bargarh 224th & Jharsuguda district occupies 253rd position in the country . All the districts of western Orissa comes with in 260th position while the most educated and advance district like Khordha in the 418th position , Cuttack 313th

,Puri 413th Baleshwar 349th postion , Where the most undeveloped Adivasi populated district like Nabarangpur with a national ranking of 11th ,Koraput 17th , Kalahandi 20th & Malkangiri 21st position which indicates that female sex ratio is higher in the undivided Koraput district . Southern & Western Orissa is in a much better position in comparison to Costal Orissa . As per the 2001 census report sex ratio in between the child population in between 0-6 age group in the descending order in the State of Orissa is as follows Nabarangapur (1002) Koraput (993) Kalahandi (990) Malkangiri (990) Rayagada (983) Sundargarh (974) Kandhamal (973) Nuapada (970) Balangir(967) Sambalpur (963) Kendujhar(963) Gajapati (963) Debagarh (962) Baudh (962) Sonapur (961) Bargarh (954) Mayurbhanj (954) Jharsuguda (950) Cuttack (941)Bhadrak (940)Kendrapara (935) Baleshwar (934) Anugul (934) Jajapur (932) Ganjam (928) Puri (921) Khordha (920) Dhenkanal (919) Jagatsinghapur (917) Nayagarh (901)

Sex ratio of KBK district is 982 & female sex ratio of Western Orissa is 965 (although KBK covers undivided Kalahandi & Balangir district of Western Orissa In this case sex ratio of Undivided Koraput is 992 ,it is 964 in undivided Kalahandi district & 980 in undivided Bolangir district . Undeveloped Southern and Western Orissa is favorable for

World Sex Ratio		Orissa Sex Ratio		
Navratna Info	China	986	ORISSA	950
	INDIA	933	Western Orissa	965
	USA	1029	KBK Dist.	982
	Indonesia	1004	Un divided Sambalpur Dist	957
	Brazil	1025	Un divided Koraput Dist	992
	Pakistan	938	Un divided Bolangir Dist	980
	Russian Fed.	1140	Un divided Kalahandi Dist	972
	Bangaladesh	953	Bargarh Dist	954
	Japan	1041		
	Nigeria	1016		
WORLD	986			

the female in comparison to developed coastal parts of Orissa, where the literacy rate is also more. The imbalance in the number of males and females begins in the beginning in entire Orissa, from the above fact it is clearly indicated that female birth ratio is higher where female literacy rate is lower as well as basic primary health infrastructure is poor. It is now a well established law of nature that the males exceed females at the time of birth. It is believed that generally 943-952 female births take place for every 1000 male births, which in effect would mean that there is a deficiency of about 50 females per 1000 males in every birth cohort. Many demographers believe that left on its own, this is an unalterable constant. According to Urmimala Das of Women's Study Research Centre, Berhampur the female to male sex ratio was rising in urban Orissa. The sex ratio is on the rise in urban areas of the state since 1961 in contrast to the reverse trend registered in rural areas of the state. In her study she alleged that "The declining sex ratio in rural Orissa indicates that female foeticide is rampant in rural areas. In her report Citing available census data, she said the number of females per 1000 males in urban Orissa went up from 807 in 1961 to 895 in 2001, the last census conducted in the state. In 1971, the number of females per 1000 males in urban area was 845, while the figure in 1981

stood at 859. Although the number of females per 1000 males was more than the present figure before 1961, there was a declining trend in the ratio from 1921 to 951. While female to male ratio in urban areas in 1921 was 963/1000, it decreased to 881/1000 in 1951, the study said. In sharp contrast, a glance at the figures in rural areas of the state reveals that the number of females to males has been registering a gradual decline over the years. In 1921, there were more females than males, 1008 per 1000, in rural Orissa. In 2001, the ratio had declined to 987 per 1000.



About the writer :-

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Intertemporal trends in Sex ratio in India

Year	S-ratio	Year	S-ratio
1901	972	1901	1037
1911	964	1911	1056
1921	955	1921	1086
1931	950	1931	1067
1941	945	1941	1053
1951	946	1951	1022
1961	941	1961	1001
1971	930	1971	988
1981	934	1981	981
1991	927	1991	971
2001	933	2001	972

Sex ratio in various Religious communities in India

Religious communities	S-ratio
Total All	927
Hindus	925
Muslims	950
Christians	964
Sikhs	786
Buddhists	942
Jains	870
Others	976