

# Caste, Labour And Migration Through The Progress Of History: A Case Study Of Balangir District Of Odisha

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**Abstract:** *Caste, Labor and Migration are crucial branches of historical studies in recent times. Balangir district is an important region of Western Odisha so far as the migrations of the labourer from lower castes and tribals are concerned. The service provider castes and tribals of the Balangir district are today in Deshantar (Migration). Debt always binds the workers with contractors. For ages, the Dalit and tribal labourers faced challenges because they are considered impure, untouchable and illiterate. They were often degraded and humiliated by the upper caste people in society. The seasonal and survival migration of labourers is not a present phenomenon in Balangir; nevertheless, more than 150 years ago, the Britishers mobilized labourers to commercialize Agriculture and other governmental purposes. Due to climate change and feudal mindset, thousands of labourers migrated to the different urban centres for survival and admittance within few decades. The theme of this study focuses on the migration and the exploitative situation of labourers from the colonial period to 2010. An attempt has been made to address climate change and feudatories on mass migration to different urban centres of India.*

**Key words** –Laborers, Migration, Periods, Feudatory and Climate change

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Eighteenth and nineteenth-century in urban India were marked by an inflow of migrants from rural areas of many states. India was one of the older colonies of Britishers. From 1835-1920 prevailing the labour trade which took place across the high sea (Indian Ocean).<sup>1</sup> Due to the agrarian crisis, rural marginal labourers were migrated to the industrial rich area of the country after independence that reflected the state economy since 1990. <sup>2</sup> These marginal labourers contributed much to the urbanization and industrialization of modern India. India has an old history of caste inequalities concerning several disadvantaged castes like SCs and STs.<sup>3</sup> Political life and economic division are part of the historical structure of the caste system. The identities of caste and culture play a determining role in shaping the mobility of subaltern communities. As push and pull factors leading alternate livelihoods from rural to the urban economy. British have ruled the state for around 136 years, but they have not brought any significant changes in the social and political system of the Balangir (Ex-Patna) district. Besides Chouhan, the ruling castes of the area were Gond and Binjhal, who were strictly orthodox. Rural Dalit and tribal were excluded from the development process. In

1803 Odisha (Costal Odisha) was conquered by the Britishers; the Britishers ruled the Garhjat area gradually. The administrative system of the Mughal Bondi area was better than the Garhjat area. There was no systematic administration in the Garhjat state in Odisha. The administration of the Ex-Patna state was oppressive and undemocratic by nature. During the period 1800 to 1948, the people of the Patna state were exploited by the Rajas. Hence this state remained backwards and underdeveloped in many fields like economic, health and education. Lower caste people face many problems accessing their lands, rights and livelihood. Due to these, many movements were started in Balangir, like the Prajamandal Movement and the movement of Krusak Mandal Party etc. Under this movement, people raised their voices against the customs duties and illegal taxes such as Bethi, Begari, Rasad and Magana etc. After the long-struggling in 1948, Ex-Patna state was merged with Odisha Province. After that, there was no redistribution of land and resources. As a result, the landlords, Entrepreneurs, Managers and Middlemen remained the source of economy and power. At the same time, the service provider caste and tribal go on Powerless and poor as like the previous stage of princely Patna State from 1804-1947. On the contrary, due to climate change, the situation of Balangir was unfavourable for agricultural production; therefore, the labourers were unable to get jobs at the village level of farming sectors and migrated to irrigated areas of Odisha. After train communication, gradually thousands of labourers migrated to the different industrial rich area

#### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:**

1. To analyze the exploitative situation of labourers of Balangir District from the colonial period to 2010
2. To study the issue of feudatories and the beginning of intra and interstate migration
3. To focus on Climate change and continue Mass migration from Balangir

#### **2. LITERATURE REVIEWS:**

The literature related to studying the exploitative situation of Balangir district has been consulted. From Colonial periods to till 2010 and Feudal mind set and climate change responsible for continuous migration. There are many studies in Odisha and abroad highlighting the situation of labourers of Odisha. Under the colonial period Bhagabati Charan Panigrahi, Gopinath Mohanty, Fakir Mohan Senapati and some other writers have raised voices against ethical issues like bonded labour, economic exploitation, socio-political exclusion and land displacement in Odisha

**Muthusamy and Ibrahim (2016)** conducted a study on Problem Faced by Informal workers in different sectors. The main motive of the study was to analyze the situation of informal workers in various sectors. **Deniel Umi (2020)** study on the Disaster dark side. His main research object is to analyze the migration from western Odisha and the outcome of disasters. **Patra and Mishra(2006)** conducted a study on Defecting Rain fail trends in the twentieth century. His survey revealed that climate change and its effect. **Barik Pabitra Mohan (2005)** studied the Prajamondal Movement of Balangir. His main objective is to analyze the exploitative situation of People in Princely state. **Sen Sunanda(2016)** Conceived a study on the Indentured Labour from India in the age of empire. The main motive of the study was to discuss the Labour power from 1834-1920. The majority of these studies show that the different people's movements and migration occurred due to exploitation and economic poorness. This study has been focused on the migration of SC/ST communities

from tribal and rural areas. Again, due to feudatories and Climate change, intrastate and interstate migration was flow from the Balangir district.

### **3. DATA AND METHODOLOGY:**

This study is based on labour migration and the progress of history. Due to the issue of feudatories and climate change, Balangir Labourer used continuous migration to survive.

This study used Balangir District Field Work Report, NRI-2002 and RCDC, Bhubaneswar, Climate Change Regime- 2011. Secondary data were collected from different books, journals, government records and NGOs working from (1990-2010) in the region. Similarly, preliminary information has been collected from SC and ST household's migrants of (Belpada, Khoprakhol and Tureikela) Balangir district. Out of 3 Panchayat of three blocks, a village level survey was conducted in three villages. The total number of HHS surveys in 3 sample villages is 120.

#### **PROFILE OF THE STUDY:**

The district of Balangir is planked in the northwest by Gandhamardhan hills. It is interspersed with the evergreen woodlands, the shelters of Bison and Sambar. The main forest area stretches along the western boundary up to the Nuapada and Kalahandi districts. Balangir district has been divided into three sub-divisions and 14 blocks. There are 285 Gram Panchayats with 1,794 villages in the district. In 2006 the Ministry of Panchayat Raj named Balangir as one of the country's backward districts out of 640 districts. It is one of the 19 districts in Odisha currently receiving regional funds from the Backward Grant Fund Programme (BRGF). According to the 2011 census, the Balangir district has a population of 16,48,574. This gives of a ranking of 302nd (Three hundred seconds) in India. The district has a literary rate of 65.5% in 2001(Census-2001). The scheduled castes constitute 20.63%, and the scheduled tribe is 16.92% of the district's total population. There are seven castes of SC numerically important as they include 96.6% of the total SC population in the district. They are Chamar, Dam, Ganda, Betra, Ghasi, Dhoba and Keut. There are around 31 scheduled tribes in the district, among these eight tribes- Ganda, Binjhal, Dhal, Kuda, Mirdha, Munda, Sahara and Sabara is important.

The district has remained one of the poorest in the country in the term of social and economic aspect. This is particularly true among the tribal and Dalit population mainly residing in the Balangir district of western Odisha. This region is a vast geographical area inhabiting a great degree of cultural uniformity in demography and lifestyle. Geographically Bolangir is mostly mountains and hilly with rivers and valleys. Western Odisha is a region that has a distinct cultural identity. The songs, dances, clothing, languages, fairs and festivals celebrated in Western Odisha are unique. This distinctive cultural identity arises from the strong association of the tribal and folk communities, which have been co-existing in Balangir for centuries. Among all these districts of western Odisha, Bolangir is rich in cultural heritage. Present Balangir district is part of the chain of poverty-stricken districts in Odisha, popularly known as KBK (Kalahandi, Balangir and Koraput). It is an important state that has been under the Choumans since 1400 AD. After that, under British rule, the region ware made part of several administrative divisions. Finally, it became a separate district in 1948, and then it is under backwardness, hunger and poverty. Despite all these social-economic and political disparities, the tribal and the Dalit people of the area contributed much. From an unknown past, it was a homeland of many tribes and service provider castes. Nowadays, due to global

warming, rural and tribal people cannot get their livelihood from cultivation, collection, and consumption. So, most of the tribal and rural people have been moved to urban areas. Gradually lakhs of people migrated from the Balangir district of Odisha to work in brick kilns in and around Hyderabad, Chennai and other places. Among the total migrating population, about 41 per cent are Scheduled Tribe (ST), and 30 per cent are SCs population in the district. MGNREGA has been discouraging due to insufficient work; shrinking forests have destroyed traditional livelihood, facing people from the tribal and rural area of Bolangir district to take hazardous Jobs in Tamil Nadu or Andhra Pradesh.

### **Development of History from Chouhan rule to Postcolonial period in Balangir:**

The district is named after the headquarter town of Balangir. It is said that the town is founded by the 12th raja of Patna Bolaram Deo, brother of Narasimha Deo, and it was named after him as Bolaramgargh. From which the present name Bolangir has been derived. Later in 1993, the Subarnapur district was separated from Bolangir to form a separate district. The history of Evaluation Laborers and migration of Balangir District has taken place in three phases, namely- (I) The Chouhan rule up to the British occupation (1300-1800), (II) British control over Patna state from 1800 to 1948 and (III) Formation of the district under the postcolonial period from 1949 to 2010.

### **The Chouhan Rule up to the British Occupation (1300-1800):**

The history of Balangir is full of events and legend; because this region was a stronghold of braves' warrior Chouhans (Rajput) kings. The Chouhan rule started in the 14th Century and ended when feudatories Patna state merged with Odisha on 1st January 1948. Ramai Deo was the founder of Patnagargh Kingdom in about 1360 A.D. He fortified the capital city and constructed a Beautiful temple for goddesses' Pateneswari; after that, he becomes the master of the entire Eighteen Gargh. From 1300A.D - 1948, This Eighteen Gargh was driven by more than twenty Chouhan rulers, one after another.<sup>4</sup> The early history of Chouhan rulers of Patna is known from many works of authors like Kosalananda written by Pandit Gangadhar Mishra (Sanskrit), Yayachandrika by Prahallad Dube written in 1282 A.D, Odia Work, i.e., Narasimha Mahatmya by Laksman Mishra and Sasisena Kavya by Pratap Rai, A note on the Garajat state was prepared by Major H.B Impey, the deputy commissioners of Sambalpur. The king was the head of civil, military and judicial power in the state. Dewan, Bakshi, Dharmater, Dandasena etc., were the Chouhan officials. During the colonial period, British officers witnessed some experiments in revenue collection. For the Tex collection from Zamindars, Balangir rajas helped the Britishers and cooperated during the rebellion time. There were different types of land tenures in the Balangir region responsible for paying land revenue to the Patna Rajas. Thus are described:

#### **Zamindarrees-**

Under this settlement, the existing zamindars were declared full owners with absolute proprietary rights of lands. Thus tax collectors were technically converted into hereditary landlords. This System was divided into many parts in Patna, i.e. Khorok-Poshak estates, The Six Bhinjeers(Six Binjhal estates) and Nine Kondhan estates (Nine Khandmahals).

**Gurhotteeahees( Gartias )-** There was a cluster of villages under the police jurisdiction of five Gurhotteeahees (gartias) Patna states. The Gartia also contained home villages and rent-free tenures.

**Babooans:** There is the number of Tenures held by Baboos or connections of the Maharajah.

Jageerdars- There were twenty-seven Jaghreedars in Patna state Sendor Teekas- Sindoor Teekahs refers to many villages are held by Rani

**Burhumoters and Dhurumoters** : Burhumoters and Dhurumoters were grants and endowments to Brahmins and the temple.

**Home Villages:** There were large numbers of villages in Patna; those were in consequence of the absorbing proportion of the Khorak-Poshak tenures. Like the present government, the Chouhan rulers of Patna were involved in **social welfare**. The technician and labourers had experience in construction and excavation works, and these works were developed in different parts of the state. Several Tanks were constructed, and a temple was built by various medieval rulers, who describe the activities of the labourers of that time. Some important activities of the labourers were Site clearing, Excavation, and Hauling etc.

### **Labour and Laborers in the pre-Colonial period:**

Under the Chouhan rule in Patna (Pre-Colonial period), like the present government, the Chouhan rulers of Patna was involved in social welfare. We have not any literary pieces of evidence to describe the labourer based construction but their work regarding the activities of the labourers of that period. The technician had experience in construction and excavation works, and these works were developed in the different parts of the state. **5** A medieval structure like the Yogini temple of Ranipur-Jhari is the best visual expression, which described much about the power of labourers in and around Bolangir. The structure of the structure has become popular, and it is still among the most beautiful designs in many parts of India. Some other temples are, Kapileswara at Charda, Kosaleswara temple. Baidyanath, Pataneswari at Patna, Rameswaram at Sonapur, built by different medieval and post-medieval ruler. These structures are the pride of medieval skill and unskilled workers creativity, humanly as well as technologically. There were several Tanks (Rama Sagar, Bhoja Sagar, Hira sagar Dharpan Sagar etc.) constructed by rulers who describe the activities of the labourers of that time. Some important activities of the labourers of **pre-colonial and colonial period** thus are described below;

**1. Site clearing-** Basically medieval rulers from different dynasties were built a temple in the forest and hilly area. No doubt the labourers involved in removal boulders, building, trees, shrubs, grasses and the crops.

#### **2. Excavation-**

It is the most common labourer's activity of that time. They used excavation in construction to create building foundations, reservoirs and roads.

#### **3. Hauling-**

During the time, the equipment hauling was carried by bullock cart. Loading, Unloading, spreading was included with haulage activity.

### **(II) British control over Patna State (1811-1948):**

British have ruled the state for around 130 years, but they have not brought any significant changes in the social and political system of the state. Most sufferers were the tribal and service provider caste in terms of socially, politically in the rural area of Bolangir District. During the middle of the 19th century, labourers from Bolangir were imported by the British colonial masters of the tea plantation in Assam and Bengal. Today also Labor market in Balangir is unique by its nature and composition. Their involvement is quite visible in many sectors (Brick kilns, construction, hotel, and trade) in many parts of India. **6**

### **Condition of Dalit and tribal communities:**

In our state, marginalized communities are rural poor, scheduled tribes and scheduled castes manual workers etc.; they are excluded from the development process. The development in Balangir has marginalized the Dalit and tribal people in the name of socio-economic and educational progress and depriving their traditional means of livelihood.

Patna, the territories of the Chouhan's, was predominantly inhabited by the aboriginal tribes. The Tribals attended to improve the social status of these people by encouraging the higher caste immigrants. The Gands, Binjhal, Kondhs, Kisan, Mirdha, Gondas and many other aboriginal tribes of Patna have formed the bulk of the population. Ganda, Binjhals and Kondhas were the ruling castes of the Patna states. The Binjhal and the Gandas of the area were strictly orthodox caste. The Gond and Binjhals priests and the watchman were popularly known as Jhankar. During the time, the Hindu immigrants to these tribal territories were also deeply influenced by their social custom, tradition but they did not accept the Brahmanas in their religious works.<sup>7</sup> In 1803, Odisha was conquered by the Britishers, and gradually, the Britishers ruled both the coastal (Mughal Bondi) and Garajat area. The administrative system of the Mughal Bondi area was better than the Garajat area. In this estate, people enjoyed many political rights, but there was no systematic administration in the Garajat state in Odisha in the princely state. The administration of this area was oppressive and undemocratic by nature. During the period from 1800-1948, the people of the Patna state were exploited by the Rajas; hence this state remained backwards and underdeveloped in many fields like economics, health, education etc.<sup>8</sup> They were disappointed with the ruler for their mish rule and inhuman activities. The anti feeling was spreading everywhere against the oppressive rulers of the state.<sup>9</sup> During the region of Surpratap Deo(1866-1878), Kondh and lower caste people face many problems to access their lands, rights and livelihood(District Gazetteers Balangir). The supporter of the Kondh was Kondh Jamindar. Thakur Majhi, Rajamahar Bariha, ChhinuBai etc., raised their voice against the Raja. Hence they were put to death. Before R.N sing Deo, the people of Patna state were more exploited by the Royal authorities. <sup>10</sup> But during the period from 1924-1930, the people of the Patna state were not dissatisfied due to the attractive personality and political activity of R.N Sing Deo. Nevertheless, within few years, the Krushak Mandal Party raised their voice against the ruler. The authorities high rule of the duties created an unpleasant situation in Patna; therefore, in 1938 A.D Praja Mandal, the movement was started against the R.N sing Deo. The workers of the movement presented many demands before Maharajas of Ex-Patna (Balangir). They demanded removing Customs duties and illegal taxes like Bethi, Begari, Rasad and Magan, etc. They also demanded rights to sell their Properties and appointment of the educated persons at the state and reduce the taxes. In 1947, Krushak Mondal Party criticized the state administration, therefore 40 villages of Agalpur and Luinsinga P.S under the leadership of Sunadhar Bhoi and Tripurari Kour Passed a Resolution not to pay any rent to the State administration. Finally, after a long-struggling, in 1948, Ex-Patna state or Balangir merged with Odisha provinces.

### **Formation of the District under the Post Colonial Period (1949-2010):**

Balangir is culturally high, historically long, and geographically heterogeneous, and linguistically these areas are more and less homogeneous. Never the less the district is one of the KBK regions of Odisha. Today's socio-economic hierarchy is conceived by gender, caste and class in Bolangir. This is associated with the proprietorship and income; therefore, disadvantaged caste-like keuta dhoba, ganda, kondh mirdha etc. suffer from more socio-economic exclusion. Finally, they receive an advance and migrate far away. My study shows

that after independence, there was no redistribution of land and resources. As a result, the Landlords, entrepreneurs, managers and middle man (Sardar) remained the source of economy and power. At the same time, the service provider caste and tribal go on powerless and poor, as like the previous stage of princely Patna state from 1804-1947. Due to climate change and mechanization, the situation of Balangir district was unfavorable for Agricultural production. Therefore, they did not find job opportunities in the village agricultural sector and migrated to the urban center through the Brokers or the middle man. The Brokers or the middlemen give advances to the laborers, and the laborers work for the middlemen to repay their debt. Like the labourers, the brokers or the Sardar has received advances from entrepreneurs or owners to recruit laborers in brick kilns. If the laborers fail to repay their entire debt, they return to the same brick kiln through the same Sardar. In this case, laborers lose their dealing power to demand higher advances from the broker. The laborers addressed the farmer as master or load, popularly known as **Sahu or Sahukar**. The caste and the caste prejudice have been the prominent factors in the relationship between the farmers and the laborers. Ghansi laborers are untouchable. In the district, many untouchable peoples are forced to sell their labor in the process subjecting them to vagarious of the labor market.

#### **Issue of Feudatory and Beginning of Labour Migration:**

Independence passed many years, but Balangir is still a largely feudal region of Odisha. In 1960 feudal system was abolished by the Indian government. But the feudal mindset has not yet disappeared. The intermediary classes, which supersede the feudal interest in the business and political system of Balangir district like the feudal society of the medieval period, the huge wealth gap noticed between the poor and rich class people in rural Bolangir district. During the pre-colonial period, at the top of this system was the king. He has owned all the country's lands, while other large strips of lands were leased to Jagirdar, next placed occupied by peasants. At the bottom, laborers were lead a measurable life.<sup>11</sup> According to many references (Trithhanker Ray-2011, S.N Pandey-2008), these identical situations also flourished in the colonial and post-colonial periods. The village economy and employment were purely agricultural-based, and Goantia managed it.<sup>12</sup> It is shown that society was functioning on a patronage basis. The administration system itself was discriminatory and exclusionary, where service provider labor classes people remained outside in the decision-making process; hence the economy of this category must have been disastrous. Therefore they choose migration several times in a year.<sup>13</sup> From the Chouhan rule to the post-colonial period, a depressing situation was created by the feudal-like system in the Balangir district. This Daden Labour system severely damaged both tribal and rural areas.<sup>14</sup> As there was an abundance of mistreating, income inequality and unhealthy power dynamics in the Dadan labor system in Balangir district. After train communication, every year, thousands of laborers migrated to urban centers (Table-1). There were **82%** of migrants households used to the continuous migration from 1990-2000.

#### **The organizational structure of the post-colonial industry:**

Like the Medieval feudal structure, the pre-colonial Agrarian system and post-colonial industry also have a pyramidal structure composed of four levels. At the head of this structure are the entrepreneurs or the owners on the second level. The managers, who managed the factory popularly known as accountants, on the third level of structure brokers or the middlemen as in Odisha, are locally known as Sardar. Finally, at the bottom, they were workers who lead a life very miserable. Under the colonial period, India becomes the shift from feudalism to colonial capitalism.

**Role of Entrepreneur:**

He organizes, manages, and controls the affairs of the factories. The entrepreneur built his business dynamically and led to employment in both higher level and lower level work in factories.<sup>15</sup>

**Managers:-**

He is an employee in a company or organization but not directly responsible for company losses.

**Intermediaries:**

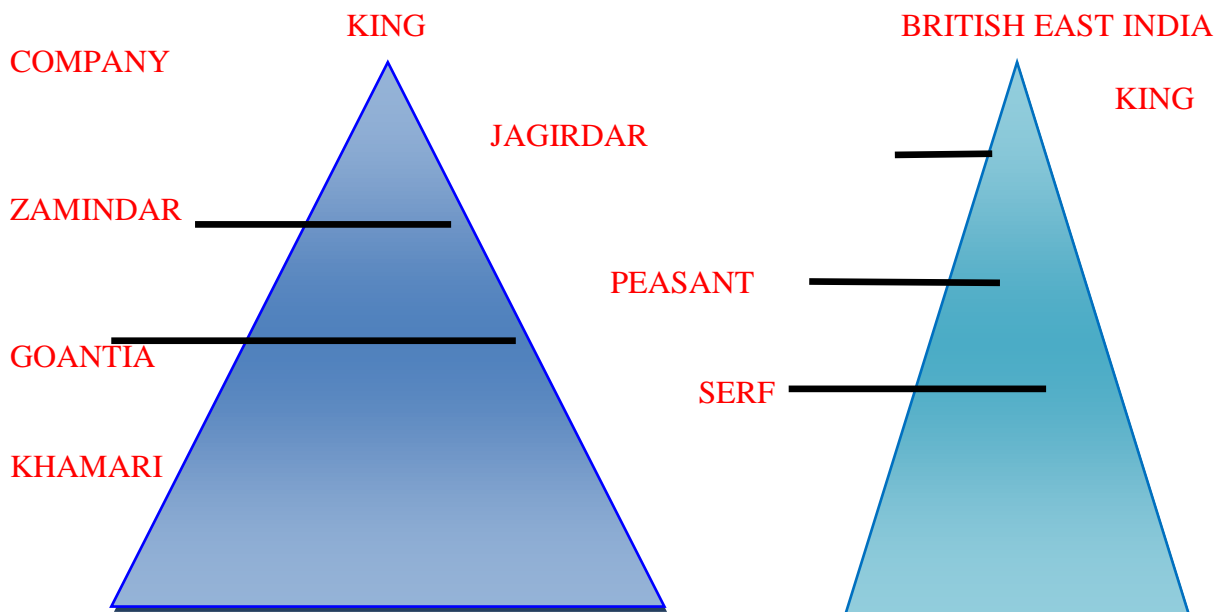
Brokers or mediators were supplied the laborers to the brick kilns market. They also recruited the laborers from their native area. The brokers also receive advances from Managers or entrepreneurs for the recruitment of laborers in brick kilns.

If the laborers fail to repay their debt again, they have to return to brick kilns to the same brick through the same Sardar; in this case, laborers lose their dealing power to demand the higher advances from the broker.<sup>16</sup>

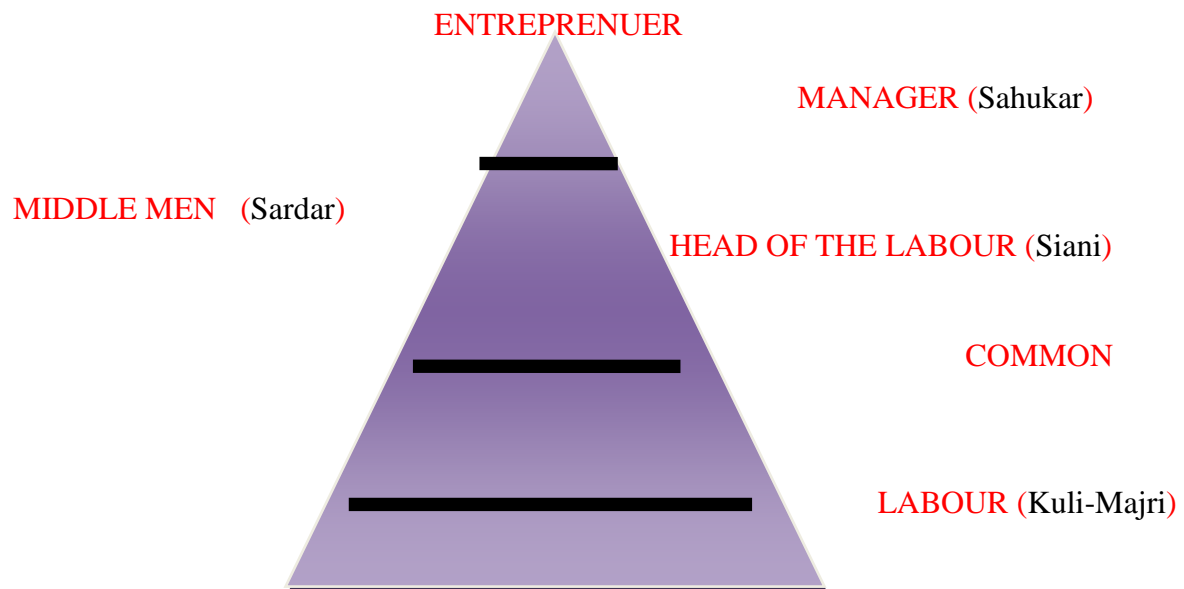
**Situation and Status of Laborers at the factory:**

The contractor laborers of Balangir take credit from landlords for sustaining themselves throughout the lean season. Still, due to climate change and mechanization, they migrated to India's urban center, and they engaged in construction and manufacturing sites; hence, their work led to acquit body pain and sleeplessness and other high risks of health problems factory. Human Rights Watch describes that laborers in the Brick-Kilns, Silk and carpet market were alarming. In Balangir, most of the migrant laborers are involved in these industries. We have interviewed many migrants and Sardars in the villages of Balangir district for this work and draw a Pyramidal structure for the pre-colonial and colonial period, and prepared for the framework of the current dadan labor system in Balangir.

1. Pyramidal structure of pre-colonial period
2. The pyramidal structure of the colonial period in Patna
3. The pyramidal structure of contemporary in Ex-Patna (Balangir)







The worst forms of distress labor practices are similar to slavery for the slave and trafficking of debt bondage; once the distressed laborer enters the exploitative market like the brick kiln, they cannot escape it.<sup>17</sup> Brick kiln occupation is thought to be hazardous work. There was 50,000 Brick kiln in India, and more than 2,000 brick entrepreneurs established their organization in the different parts of Tamil Nadu. No doubt due to the knowledge and ability of Brick entrepreneurs in India is quite similar to a Perfect Competitive Market (PCM). Most of the brick kiln entrepreneurs will not lose; therefore, they visited several times to the market. Due to the existence of the middlemen or the Sardar in the hierarchical structure, we do not see the relationship between the highest and the lowest. Thus laborers of Bolangir do not know who is the entrepreneurs or the owners of the brick kilns they always feel that the manager or the accountant as the owners of the brick kilns because he is present and scrutinizes their work at the worksite, they are in charge of paying of wages and giving wages to the laborers. There were many cases of laborer exploitation in the labor market; they were always exploited through the Brokers.<sup>18</sup> Many nongovernment and government organizations try to rescue them but they do not take any step against entrepreneurs and managers, because they have the source of money and power.

### **Climate changes and Continue Mass Migration:**

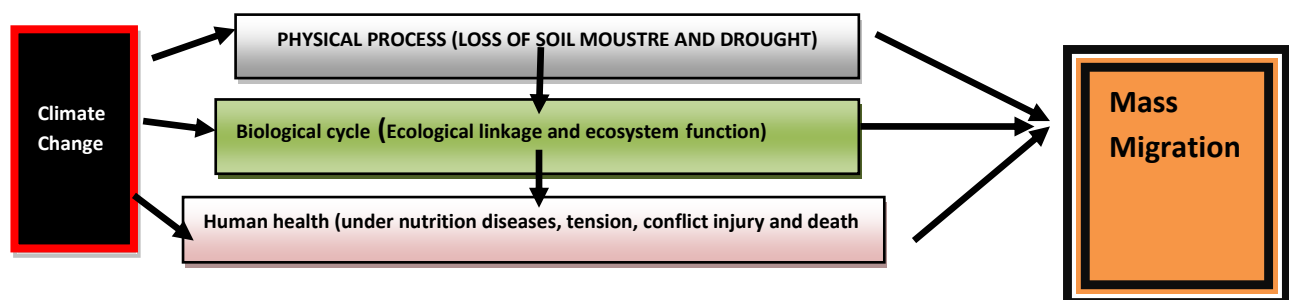
Balangir has a tropical climate; it is hot and sub-humid and the agro-ecological sub-region. After the 20th century, severe climate change significantly increases human suffering because of loss of life and property. Balangir is a drought-prone area in the post-colonial period and has a large impact on agricultural production in farming systems. According to the drought timeline in Odisha(Akhil B. Ota-2001), the drought of 1884, 1975, 1994 and 2000 broke down the backbone of farmers and many Dalit and Tribal people Migrated to the outside of Odisha because of serious food insecurity in the district. My study state that there were **58% SC household and 36% ST households** are migrating every year for more than six months. Only **6% HH** migration was reported from other castes (Table-2). It is found that climate change rotates on the landlord, peasants and tenants and the Labour relationship. Because it is a major problem for agricultural sustainability, a struggle emerged between landlords, tenants, and labor for economic benefits. After the 20th century, these climate change effects may induce large-scale human migration both intra and interstate.

Throughout the around 2000,000 years of presence of the modern human being or Homo sapiens, the climatic condition of the earth has differed steadily in reaction nature and cosmological impacts.<sup>19</sup> From the ancient period, people were displaced and migrated because of global warming and the number of disasters. On the present-day courses worldwide warming and its connected changes in rainfall, researchers point out that within a half-century, it reaches the critical stage that is dangerous to the function of natural systems, the food sources, life cycles and geographic ranges of many nonhuman species have already been affected. It is both natural and human activity.<sup>20</sup> Climate change is responsible for many factors, i.e., **water shortage, overcrowding, unemployment, pollution and poverty**. All these factors are today's great stressors for a human being. Therefore most of the people migrated to other places in search of economic opportunity. Different types of migration are closely associated with the environment, i.e., forced environmental migration, environmentally motivated migration, climate refugees, environmental displaced people, etc. Climate change has influenced the temperature and nature of rainfall worldwide.<sup>21</sup> Despite the differences are not equal for all the regions. Balangir is situated in the western part of Odisha, where agricultural activities mainly depend on rainfall. The district has been divided into four agro-ecological situations (AES) –

1. Plan Land and irrigated
2. Plan land rain-fed
3. Undulating plain drought-prone
4. Undulating-sub mountainous tract rain-fed.

A hot and sub-humid climate characterizes it; every year, the people of the Balangir region are affected by drought. Because of lack of food and water shortages, undernutrition, diseases, tension, conflict injury, and death increased day today. Due to deficiency from 1980-2000, the district suffers from extreme poverty. In Balangir, Ecological linkage and ecosystem function was devastated by mostly human-driven climate change. Within two decades, people of this area are unable to collect forest production. Therefore a large number of people migrated to the different parts of India.

### Impact of Climate change in Balangir



The internal-governmental penal on climate change (IPCC) defines that the chief outcome of global warming is connected to water stress; a reduction of water availability will influence some parts of the earth. Scholars like Dietz, Ruben and Verhagen think that food and water are closely related to food production and food imports levels. These deeply influence the socio-economic condition of the area.<sup>22</sup> Undoubtedly, the rising dance population in the Balangir region is one of the greatest risks from the salinization of groundwater and soil. It was affecting agriculture and creating much disturbance in the natural ecosystem. Rainfall

and temperature are the two important climate parameters; both are important aspects of agricultural production.<sup>23</sup> In the Balangir region, most farmers, think that rainfall decreased over the last thirty years; more than 80% of the farmer from Muribahal and Khoprakhol area are reported that the drought is the main cause of migration.<sup>35</sup> Mostly, Balangir receives an annual rainfall of 1290.4mm. This less rainfall never assists cultivation in the different parts of the district.<sup>24</sup> Therefore, the villagers have dug many ponds for irrigation because of frequent drought, day-to-day increasing water shortage, and ultimately the cultivation area of many villages converted into drylands. In Balangir, there was no water, no standard soil, and no green land. Hence a large number of poor Dalit and tribal people migrated to the different parts of India. According to the 2011 census, more than 605,000 people were relocated from the district.<sup>25</sup> I know from my survey that Bolangir migration is adoption and its dry land characterizes the high temperature, scanty rainfall, nutrient-poor soil with lean vegetation. But the higher classes' peoples have adapted to this environment. From 1990-2000, Bolangir faced severe drought 1975.<sup>26</sup> We noticed that from 1990-2002, Climate changes directly or indirectly affect the forest through changes in temperature and rainfall; the district has recorded a dance forest area of 53,400 ha in 1991; even so, it decreased to 40819 ha in 2002.<sup>27</sup> Because of the frequency of drought, the Balangir region is coming under the Drought Prone Area Program of the government (DPAP). Now the Agricultural production is the alarming scenario for the dry land of Balangir.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The above study helps us to create some remarks as below. Through the ages, Dalit and Tribal laborers have faced challenges everywhere because as unclean, untouchable, polluted and illiterate. They were often degraded and humiliated by upper caste people in society. Like the present government, pre-colonial and colonial Chouhan rulers were also involved in social welfare. The technician and the laborers had experience in construction and Excavation works. There works like temples, ponds, Tanks, Kacha road etc., regarding the activities of laborers of that period. Nevertheless, most of the laborers class people were more suffers in society. Between the years 1800-1948, people of service provider castes were exploited by Rajas of Patna. Therefore this state remained backward and underdeveloped in many fields. Finally, they left their homeland in search of food. During the colonial period, intra-state migration was started. But after independence, there was no distribution of land and resources. As a result, higher classes people remained the source of economy and power while the laborers from service provider caste and tribals go on powerless and poor to poorer. On the other hand, due to climate change, every year, thousands of laborers were migrated to the industrial rich area for survival, as climate change is responsible for water shortage, overcrowding, unemployment, pollution, poverty etc., in the district.

Table-1  
 Rate of continue migration (1990-2000)

Name of Blocks	No of Respondents	Yes(Respondents)	No (Respondents)
Khoprakhol	50	38(76%)	12(24%)
Belpara	50	46(92%)	4 (8%)
Tureikela	20	14 (70%)	6 (30%)
Total	120	98(82%)	22(18%)

82% of migrants house hold used to the continue migration from 1990-2000.

Table-2  
 Caste Wise % of House Hold Reporting Migration in Three Blocks

Sl. No	Blocks	SC	ST	Other cast	Total
1	Khoprakhhol	41 (82%)	7	2	50
2	Belpara	17 (34%)	30	3	50
3	Tureikela	12 (60%)	6	2	20
Total		70 (58%)	43(36%)	7(6%)	120(100%)

58% SC household and 36% ST households are migrating every year for more than six month. Only 6% HH migration reported from other caste.

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