

PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756

JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Interdisciplinary Reflection of Contemporary Society

© Kamla-Raj 2012

PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756

J Soc Sci, 30(1): 89-98 (2012)

DOI: 10.31901/24566756.2012/30.01.10

The Changing Occupational Structure and Economic Profile of Textile Industry of Banaras, Uttar Pradesh

Ajeet Jaiswal

*Department of Anthropology, Pondicherry University, Puducherry, India
Mobile: 09791201427, 08122594335; E-mail: rpgajeet@gmail.com*

KEYWORDS Ordinary Weaver. Master Weaver. Kothidar/*Gaddidar*. Powerloom

ABSTRACT In recent years, debates on modern economic development have become a central issue, not only in politics but also in the academic field. Bookstores all over the globe count numerous works on this theme, new ones appearing regularly, and newspapers are filled with articles and discussions on the subject. Within academia, not only economists but also historians have become increasingly involved in debates on the origination of the divide between richer and poorer countries. One of the central questions is what lies at the basis of a country's economic success. A 'modern' structure of the labour market, with a relatively low share of the population in the primary sector, a high degree of specialization and high levels of wage labour, is often considered to be one of the driving forces behind economic achievement. This paper attempts to investigate the changing occupational structure and economic profile of the Textile Industry of Banaras, Uttar Pradesh. A total number of 300 adult workers working in different sectors in seventeen different factories and 300 Non Textile Workers were interviewed. The analysis of the present study suggests that the industry started with the independent weaver as the nodal point, gradually changed into family based corporate business enterprise, and also the rise of intermediaries (Ordinary Weaver, Master Weaver and *Kothidar/Gaddidar*) within the occupation are the most important phenomena, thus reflecting the changing occupational structure and economic profile of Textile workers of Uttar Pradesh.