

Kharda – Village Life in Maharashtra, India

Kharda village is a very small village about 45 km south of Nagpur, about 5 km off the main road (Highway) from Nagpur to Hyderabad. Only a dirt road leads to Kharda. 170 people or 35 families (households) live in Kharda. This includes 5 nomad families or 23 people from lower caste Hindus (Pangul and Gosai) who came to Kharda to work on the surrounding farms. They built five huts mostly out of tree branches a few meters outside Kharda village. They plan to stay in Kharda until Diwali before they move on to another place.

Two VHV's are working in Kharda, seven children from this village go to the Sangam kindergarten in Bamhani.

There is electricity in most of the houses and three wells to get water from. Most people cook on fire, only few have gas (but still cook on fire). The most common electronic devices are fans, followed by black & white TV sets. Less than half of the families have an own TV set. Only one family has color TV. The most common transport devices are bicycles. Only two families have a motorbike or a tractor. Two families operate flour mills, three families own a sewing machine. There is no telephone in Kharda.

Most houses are made out of stone, only the five temporary huts are made out of tree branches.



Temporary huts

1. People

Total number of families (households): 35

Total number of people: 170

1.1 Sex

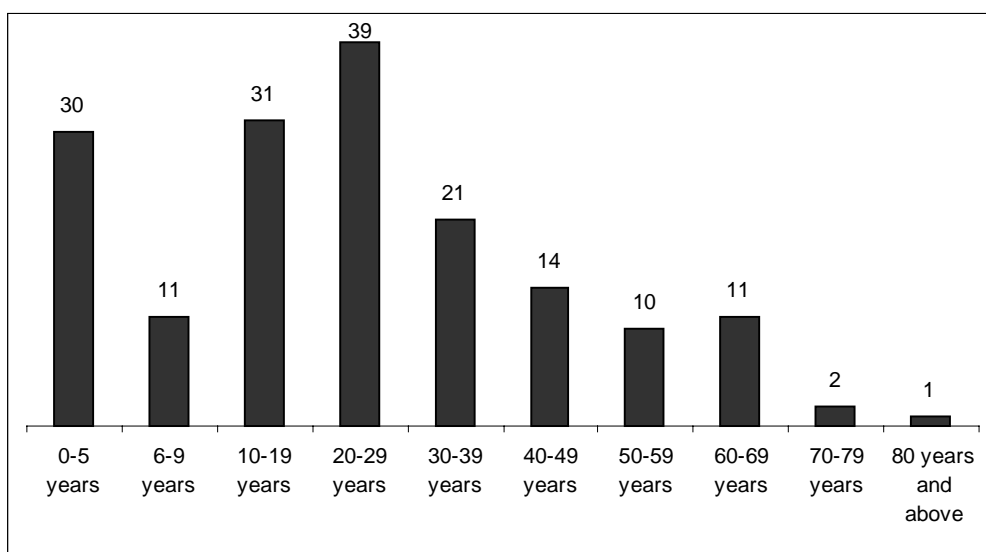
Number of women: 87

Number of men: 83

1.2 Age

	absolute	in %
0-5 years	30	18
6-9 years	11	6
10-19 years	31	18
20-29 years	39	23
30-39 years	21	12
40-49 years	14	8
50-59 years	10	6
60-69 years	11	6
70-79 years	2	1
80 years and above	1	1
Total	170	100%

Age



2. Education

Based on families:

Families with nobody with formal education:	4
Families with at least one person with formal education:	31

Based on individual persons:

	absolute	in %
not applicable*	22	13
Sangam kindergarten	7	4
1st-4th class	26	15
5th-10th class	58	35
12th class	8	5
higher (e.g. polytechnic)	4	2
no formal education	43	26
Total	168	100%

*not applicable refers to children under age of 6
2 persons were not properly asked therefore not included in this table, they can read & write

3. Religion

Based on families:

Hindu families:	33
Buddhist families:	2

Based on individual persons:

	absolute	in %
Hindu	158	93
Buddhist	12	7
Total	170	100%

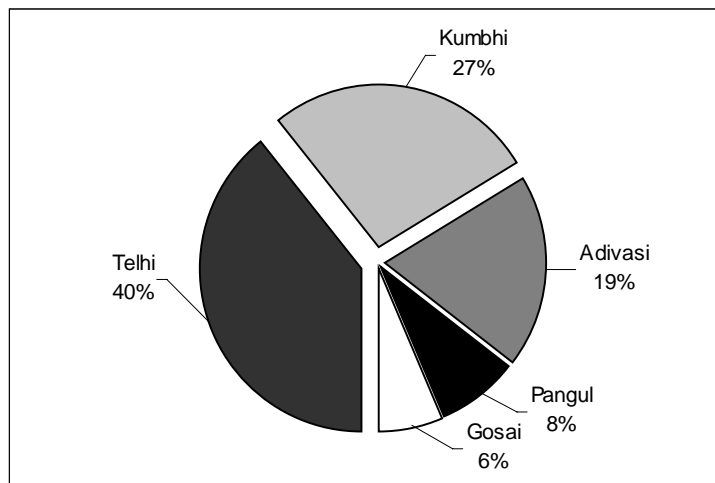
4. Caste

Based on families:

Telhi:	13 families
Kumbhi:	9 families
Adivasi:	6 families
Pangul:	3 families
Gosai:	2 families

Based on individual persons:

Distribution of Castes in Kharda



	absolute	in %
Telhi	62	39
Kumbhi	43	27
Adivasi	30	19
Pangul	13	8
Gosai	10	6
Total	158	100%

5. Agriculture

Based on families

Land

Families with no land:	11
Up to 5 acres:	6
6-10 acres:	14
11-15 acres:	1
16-20 acres:	1
more than 20 acres:	2

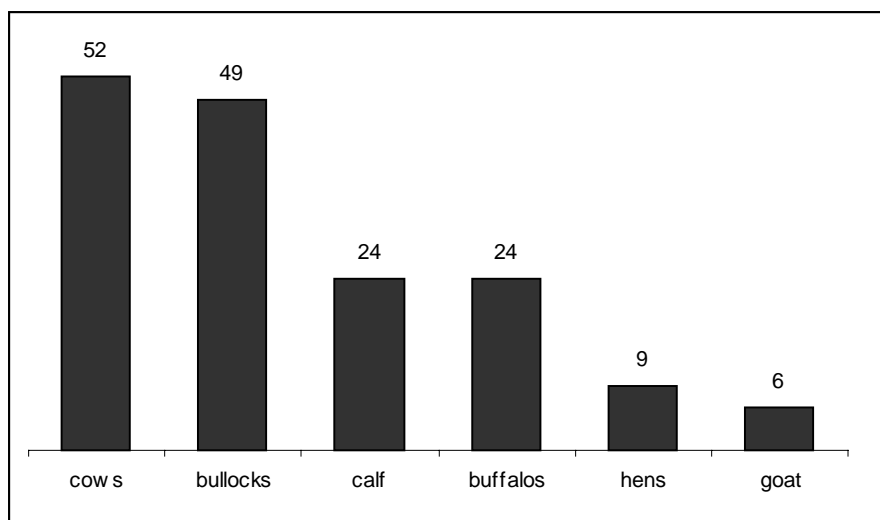
Animals

Animals asked for are cows, calves, bullocks, buffaloes, hens, goat.

There are 164 animals in total.

Families with no animals:	2
1-3 animals:	14
4-6 animals:	11
7-9 animals:	5
10 or more animals:	3

Number and sort of animals in Kharda



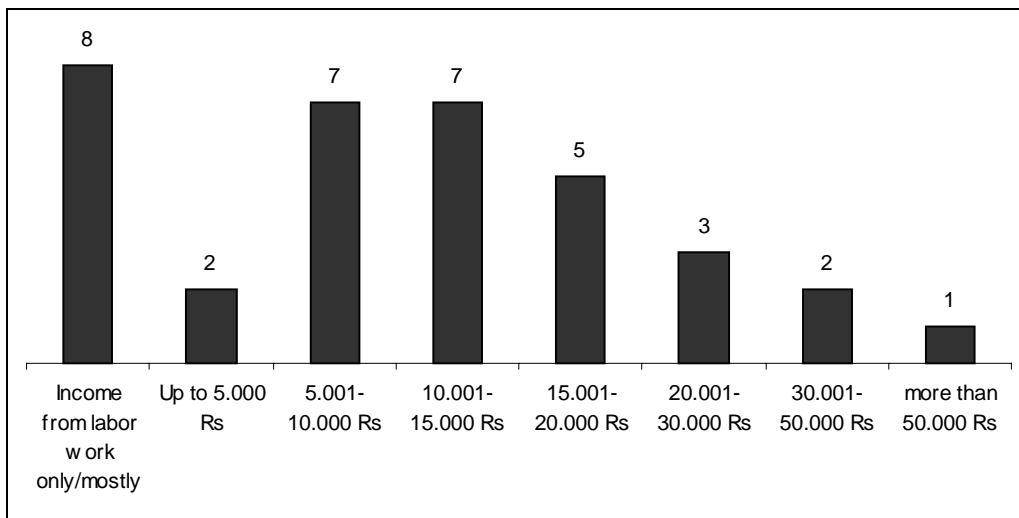
6. Income & Source of Income

Based on families

6.1 Income (per year)

Income from labor work only/mostly:	8 families*
Up to 5.000 Rs:	2 families
5.001-10.000 Rs:	7 families
10.001-15.000 Rs:	7 families
15.001-20.000 Rs:	5 families
20.001-30.000 Rs:	3 families
30.001-50.000 Rs:	2 families
more than 50.000 Rs:	1 family (150.000 Rs)

* male workers 50 Rs. per day, female workers 30 Rs. per day (work is irregular)



6.2 Source of income

(at least one person per family)

Work on own land/animals:	26 families
Labor worker on other farms:	17 families
Worker in factory:	1 family

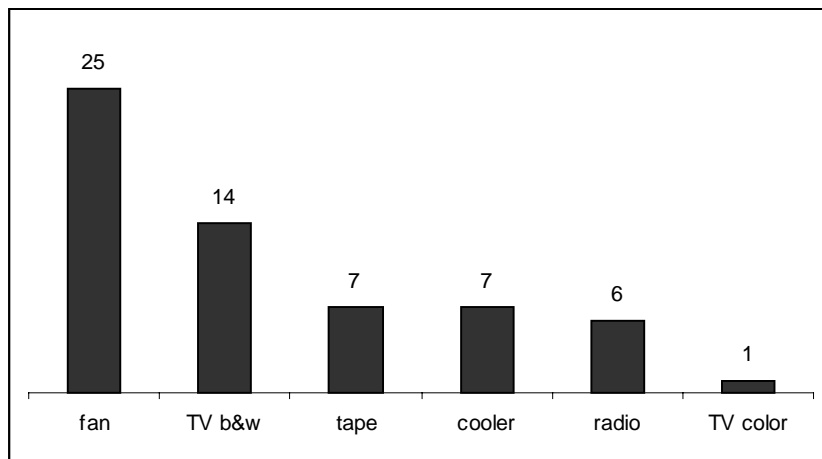
7. Electricity & Gas

Families without electricity:	7 (one family admitted to take electricity illegally sometimes)
Families with electricity:	28
Families not using gas:	28 families
Families using gas:	7 families (although they may still cook on fire)

8. Electronic devices

Based on families

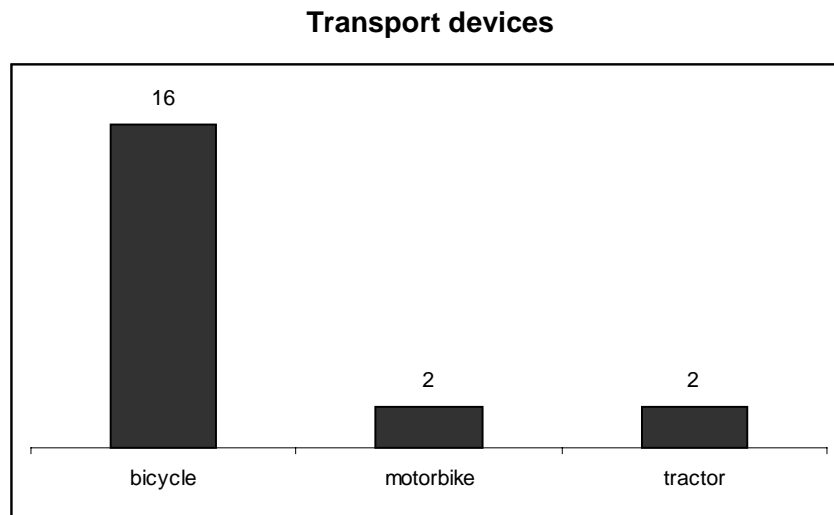
Electronic devices



There is no telephone in Kharda.

9. Transport devices

Based on families



10. Other devices

Two families operate a flour mill.

Three families have sewing machines.

11. Housing

With the exception of the five huts outside the village all houses are made of stone with a solid roof. 30 houses have bathrooms mostly outside the house and no toilet, only one family has a toilet in their bathroom (inside their house).

The five huts are made out of tree branches and tarpaulin.

12. Methodology

To get an overview about Kharda village, which is a rather small village, all 35 households were included in this survey. The aim was to find out the demographic structure in Kharda as well as the ownership of electronic devices and transport devices. With the help of Venu Ganar, Sangeeta and the local VHVs in Kharda most households were asked. If nobody was home to be asked, the local VHVs or neighbours were able to answer the questions.



Interviews with the nomad families in Kharda