



An Analysis of Participation of Muslim Children in School Education

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Abstract:

Multiculturalism is thought and a way to respond to cultural and religious diversity. Multiculturalism is best understood as a perspective or a way of viewing human life. Its central insight is that human beings are culturally embedded in the sense that they grow up and live within a culturally structured world and organize their lives and social relations. In the present paper, an effort has been made to analyze the participation of Muslim children in school education in terms of gender, age and state. The documentary analysis shows that in spite of all the arrangements and benefits made by the government, the Muslim children's participation in education is only meager to the total. Muslim girls' participation is also less as compared to boys.

Keywords: *School Education, Muslim Children*

1. Introduction

Our millennia old Indian culture beginning with Indus Valley civilization is an amalgamation of variety of cultures in terms of race, religion and language. Multicultural concerns have always been there, not alone in our history but also in the contemporary traditions. India can truly be called an outstanding example of the largest democratic culturally diverse nation where people speak good around 122 major languages and 1600 other languages.

Unity in diversity is the beauty of Bharat which provides equal rights, privileges and duties to all irrespective of caste and creed. Cultural diversity is a very important characteristics of our Indian society. However, the presence of a greater number of culturally diverse groups together in a nation is the also cause of escalating conflicts and increasing intolerance. The biggest challenge is to preserve our multicultural and diverse tradition at one hand and to bring the lagging communities to the mainstream. In this regard, Indian constitution can be truly called the basic multicultural document as it provides recognition and accommodation to the cultural diversity of its nation. It has many acts favoring marginalized groups of the society, thus giving sufficient protection and privilege for promoting the spirit of multiculturalism. With this background, the present study is being made.

2. Statement of the problem

An Analysis of Participation of Muslim Students in School Education.

3. Objective

To study the participation of Muslim students in school education with reference to gender, age and state.

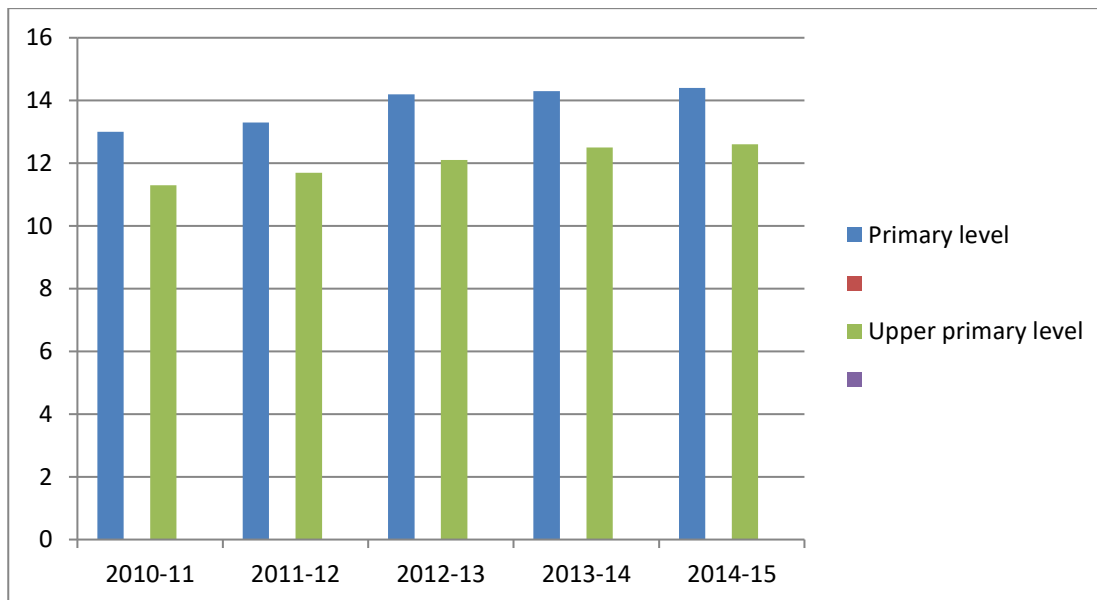
4. Methods and sources of data

The method adopted for the present study was documentary analysis. Data was taken from State Report Cards.

5. Analysis and Findings

Table 1.1. Muslim Enrolment: Primary Level and Upper primary Level at National Level

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Primary level	13.0	13.3	14.2	14.3	14.4
Upper primary level	11.3	11.7	12.1	12.5	12.6



According to the above-mentioned table the percentage of total Muslim students in the year 2010-11 was found to be 13 % at primary level and 11.3 % at upper primary level. In the year 2011-12 there was slight increase in the percentages at both the levels i.e. 13.3 and 11.7 % respectively. During the next three years no prominent increase is observed at both the levels. There is rise by just one and two percent.

Table 1.2. Percentage of Muslim girls and boys enrolment at primary and upper primary level

	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
Primary level	49.2	50.8	49.2	50.8	49.8	50.2	49.1	50.9	49.0	51
Upper primary level	51.3	48.7	51.4	48.6	51.4	48.6	51.4	48.6	51.5	48.5

The analysis of this table shows that the percentage of girls is less than that of boys in all consecutive five years. Though, the difference in percentage is not very big but boy’s percentage at both, primary and upper primary level is found to be more.

Also, the range of percentage is not having much variation in both genders. But the percentage of girls at upper primary level is observed more than that at the primary level and the picture is reversed in the case of boys, their percentage is more in case of primary level and less in upper primary level.

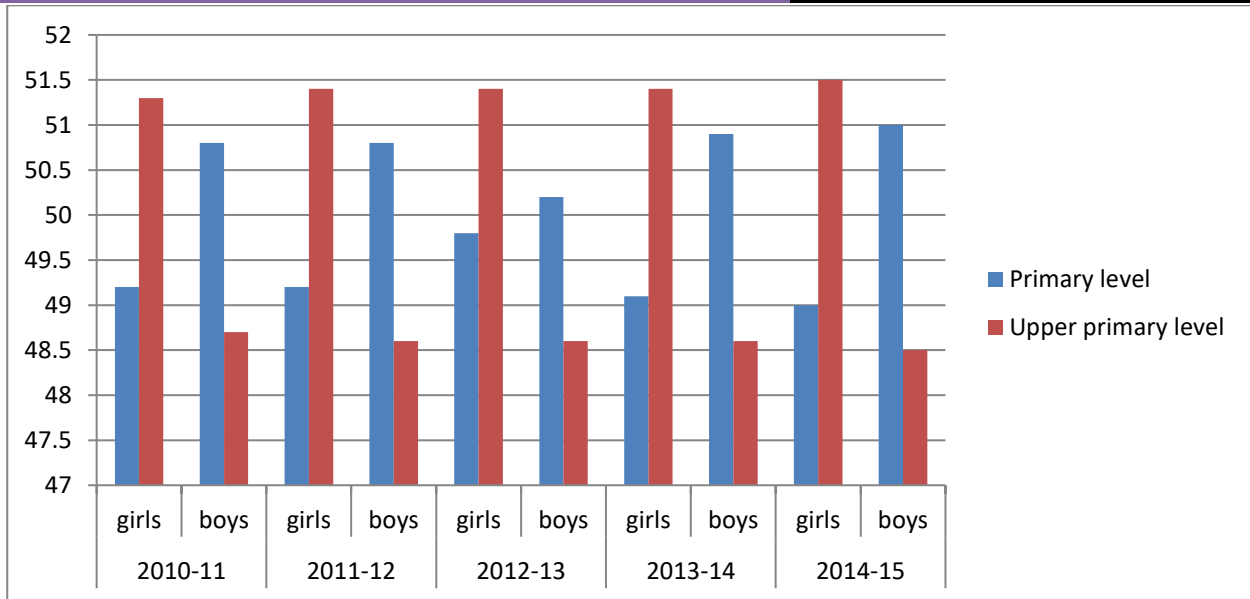
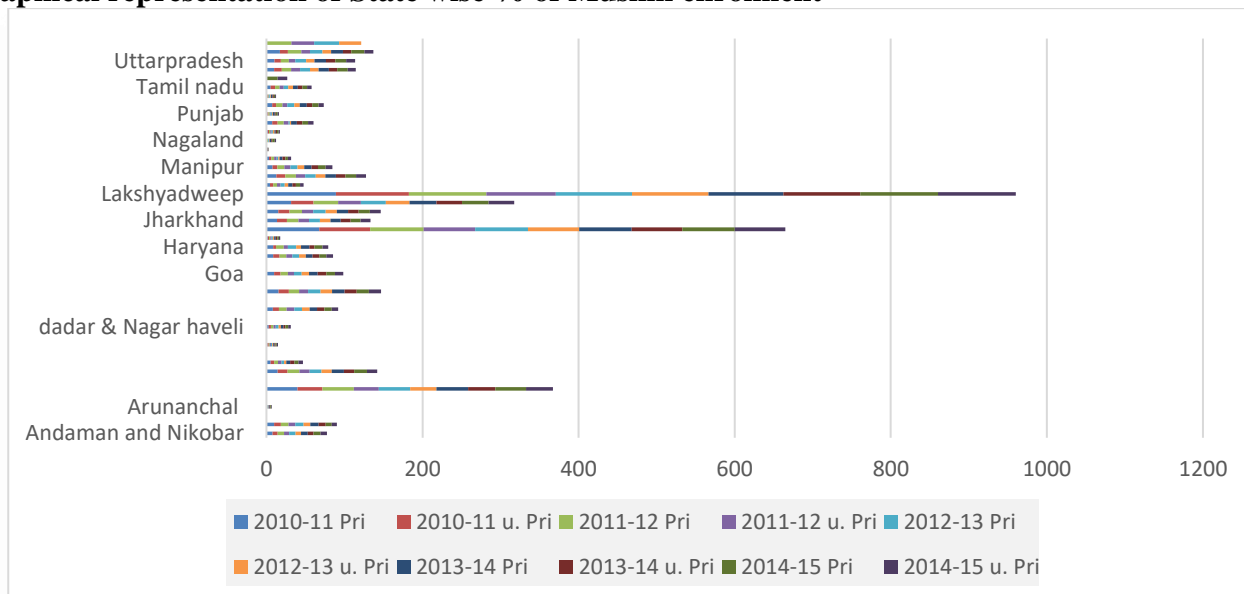


Table 1.3. State wise % of Muslim enrolment

States	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Pri	u. Pri	Pri	u. Pri	Pri	u. Pri	Pri	u. Pri	Pri	u. Pri
Andaman and Niko bar	7.9	6.6	8.1	6.6	8.1	6.9	8.6	7.5	8.9	8.5
Andhra Pradesh	9.7	8.6	10.1	8.7	10.3	9	10	9	7.8	6.8
Arunanchal	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.8
Assam	39.9	32	40.3	31.9	40.2	34	41	34.6	40	34
Bihar	14.4	13	15.2	13.2	15.1	13	16	13.3	16	13
Chandigarh	5.2	4.6	5.1	4.6	3.2	2.6	5.2	5.2	5.5	5.5
Chhattisgarh	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.4
Dadar & Nagar haveli	2.9	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.4	3	3.2	2.5	3.7	3.1
Daman & Diu	8.2	8	9.5	9.8	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.1	9.7	7.9

Delhi	15.7	13	13.2	11.3	16.1	15	16	15.3	16	15
Goa	9.8	8.1	9.5	7.9	9.8	9.4	11	11.1	11	11
Gujarat	8.6	8.1	8.6	8	8.7	8.4	8.8	8.6	8.8	8.6
Haryana	8.7	3.8	9.8	5.1	10.9	6	11	6.6	10	7.2
Himachal Pradesh	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.6	2.3	1.8	2	1.7
J & K	67.5	65	68.5	66.2	67.4	66	67	65	67	65
Jharkhand	13.6	13	14.5	13.7	13.8	14	13	12.8	13	13
Karnataka	15.3	14	16	14.4	15.9	15	14	13.6	14	14
Kerala	31.7	29	31.3	29.2	32	31	35	32.8	34	33
Lakshadweep	89.1	93	99.4	89	97.7	98	96	98.4	100	100
Madhya Pradesh	4.6	4.1	5	4.3	5.4	4.5	5.2	4.7	5.3	4.6
Maharashtra	12.8	11	13.6	11.9	13.7	12	14	12.2	14	13
Manipur	7.7	6.3	9	7.6	9.3	8.7	9.1	8.4	9.7	8.7
Meghalaya	3.3	3	3.5	3.2	2.3	1.7	3.4	3.9	3.3	3.8
Mizoram	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3
Nagaland	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.5	2.2	1.3	3.1	1.7
Odisha	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
Puducherry	7.5	6.9	7.6	6.4	1.4	1.6	7.5	7.1	7.5	7
Punjab	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.7	1.3	2.1	1.6	2.3	1.7
Rajasthan	7.3	5	8.4	5.9	9.2	6.8	9.2	6.7	8.5	6.3
Sikkim	0.9	0.6	1.3	0.9	1.4	0.8	2	1.5	1.8	1.1
Tamilnadu	5.5	5.4	5.8	5.5	5.9	5.8	6.2	5.9	6	5.7
Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	12
Tripura	9.8	10	11.9	11.1	12.9	11	13	10.7	13	11
Uttar Pradesh	10.4	8.1	10.2	8.1	14.1	11	15	11.8	14	12
Uttarakhand	17.1	10	17.6	11	16.1	11	15	10.7	17	12
West Bengal	31.7 26.7		32.2	28.8	32.3	28	33.2 29.6		34.5 30.8	

Graphical representation of State wise % of Muslim enrolment



Analysis of table 1.3 reveals that maximum growth in enrolment in terms of percentage is found in Lakshadweep, both at primary and upper primary level, followed by J&K and West Bengal. The growth is lowest in case of Mizoram followed by Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Analyzing the growth state wise, it is observed that Andaman and Nicobar have increase of 1 and 1.9 % at the two levels respectively. Andhra Pradesh has 1.1 and 1.8% increase, Arunachal Pradesh 0.5 and 0.4, Assam 0.1 and 2%, Bihar 1.6% at primary level and no change at upper primary level, Chandigarh 0.3 and 0.9%, Chhattisgarh 0.4 and 0.1 less growth, Dadar & Nagar Haveli 1.2 and 3.1%, Daman and Diu 1.5 and -0.1, Delhi 0.3 and 2%, Goa 1.2 and 1.9%, Gujarat 0.2 and 0.5%, Haryana 1.3 and 3.4%, Himachal Pradesh 0.3 and 0.2%, J & K -0.5 and no change, Jharkhand 0.6% and no change, Karnataka -1.3% and no change, Kerala 2.3 and 4%, Lakshadweep 10.9 and 7%, MP 0.7 and 0.5%, Maharashtra 1.2 and 2%, Manipur 2 and 2.5%, Meghalaya same at primary level and 0.8%, Mizoram, Orissa, Pondicherry, Sikkim, Punjab, Tamilnadu have very marginal increase, Nagaland 2.5 and 1.3%, Rajasthan 1.2 and 1.3%, Tripura 3.2 and 1%, UP 3.6 and 3.9% and West Bengal with 2.8% increase at primary and 4.2% at upper primary level.

6. Conclusion

- On the basis of the above given tables, it can be drawn that maximum increase in the percentage of total Muslim students enrolled at primary and upper primary level was in 2012-13. It increased by 0.9 and 0.4% respectively.
- The percentage of students at upper primary level is more as compared to the primary level. At the same percentage of boys is more as to that of girls.
- In terms of states, Lakshadweep has highest increase in percentage at both the levels followed by J&K and West Bengal. The lowest growth at primary level is observed in Uttarakhand (0.1%) followed by Assam (0.1%), Gujarat (0.2%), Odisha and Chandigarh. In case of upper primary Odisha has lowest increase followed by Pondicherry and Himachal Pradesh.
- No change is observed in Meghalaya and Pondicherry at primary level and Chandigarh, J&K, Jharkhand and Karnataka at upper primary level.
- Decrease in percentage is observed in J&K and Karnataka at primary level and Chhattisgarh and Daman & Diu at upper primary level, when last five years data is analysed

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