



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCE RESEARCH, IDEAS AND INNOVATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY

ISSN: 2454-132X

Impact factor: 4.295

(Volume3, Issue3)

Available online at [www.ijariit.com](http://www.ijariit.com)

## Literacy Level of Muslim Girls in Uttar Pradesh

**Pooja Singh**

Noida International University, Greater, Noida  
[poojasingh.aaru@gmail.com](mailto:poojasingh.aaru@gmail.com)

**Dr. Meena Bhandari**

Noida International University, Greater, Noida  
[bhandarimeena2007@rediffmail.com](mailto:bhandarimeena2007@rediffmail.com)

---

**Abstract:** This paper main aims to find out the literacy level of Muslim girls in Uttar Pradesh and it also aims to compare the literacy level of Muslim girls in Uttar Pradesh between two censuses i.e. 2001 and 2011. The study is based on the secondary sources of data which has been collected from the census of India 2001 and 2011. In this paper, Researcher's focused on the status of Muslim girls' literacy rate in Uttar Pradesh. It is found that more than half i.e., 53.95 percent of the total population of the Muslims in India is illiterate with 17.48 percent literate people just for the name sake only. If we talk about Uttar Pradesh then we found that 50.59 per cent Muslim girls are literate in 2011 (as per census 2011) in which 47.04 literate in rural areas and 56.44 literate in urban areas. This show better result from the census report 2001 in which 31.58 Muslim girls were literate in rural areas and 47.31 Muslim girls were literate in urban areas. The results have revealed that the literacy level of Muslim girls in Uttar Pradesh is not satisfactory and needs special attention.

**Keywords:** Muslim women, Literacy Rate, Islam, Educational Status and Uttar Pradesh.

---

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In India, we have seen that the Muslim community is not well educated especially in Uttar Pradesh because in Uttar Pradesh Muslim population is high in comparison to other communities.

Muslims community is the largest minority in India and its population in India is second largest population after Indonesia. Educationally, Muslim constitutes one of the most backward communities in the Country which is a matter of concern. Muslim girls and women lag behind their male counterparts and women of all other communities in every field. The blurred picture of Muslim women in India has received a lot of attention resulting in the advancement of women in all walks of life. It is also important to find a solution as to how the women face the problems and the situation that are concerned with their roles from giving birth to a child to death and how they adjust themselves to these circumstances. The indifferent status of women in societies is also agreed with the negation of property rights and education, as well as negation of certain occupation to them but globalization and industrialization have changed the awakened Muslim women to sense their own self-importance. Female literacy is becoming important as mothers play a central role in supporting children's education. Educated female not only pushes their children to go to school but are also able to help them to do their homework. If we want to fight against illiteracy, it is necessary that we educate Muslim ladies. And the women have economic potential also just as men have. If women remain illiterate, their economic potential may also lose. Therefore, if Muslim community wants to develop and progress, Muslim girls should be given education.

The Constitution of India grants the rights to Equality and Right to Freedom of Religion and Protection of Interest of Minorities in regard to education rights. For six decades, the nation has worked and moved towards building and sustaining a secular democracy and advancing the interests of the historically disadvantaged section including women. Article 15 (1) on right to 'equality' provides the basic policy framework that preserved the vision of girls' education and the spirit in which their education is to be provided.

The Report of the University Education Commission (1948-1949) observed that there cannot be an educated society without educated women. If general education is to be limited to men or women, that opportunities should be given to women, for them it would most surely be passed on to the next generation. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru said, "To awaken the people it is women who must be awakened".

Objectives:

1. To study the status of literacy level of Muslim girls between two census in all districts of Uttar Pradesh.
2. To study the status of literacy level of Muslim girls between two census in Rural and Urban areas of Uttar Pradesh.
3. To compare the literacy level of Muslim girls between two census among the Muslim Community and the girls of all the other Communities of Uttar Pradesh.

## 2. DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

This study is mainly based on the data collected from literate Muslim women from all the districts of Uttar Pradesh. Figures of Secondary Data related to Muslim women literacy (Census 2001 and 2011) collected from Office of Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India (Delhi). The researcher utilized the simple percentage method for calculating the educational status of Muslim girls in Uttar Pradesh.

The technique is used to find out the educational status of a Muslim girl with their education growth in Rural and Urban areas of all districts in Uttar Pradesh.

The formula for computing crude literacy rate and effective literacy rate are as follows.

$$\text{Crude Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Literacy Persons} \times 100}{\text{Total Persons}}$$

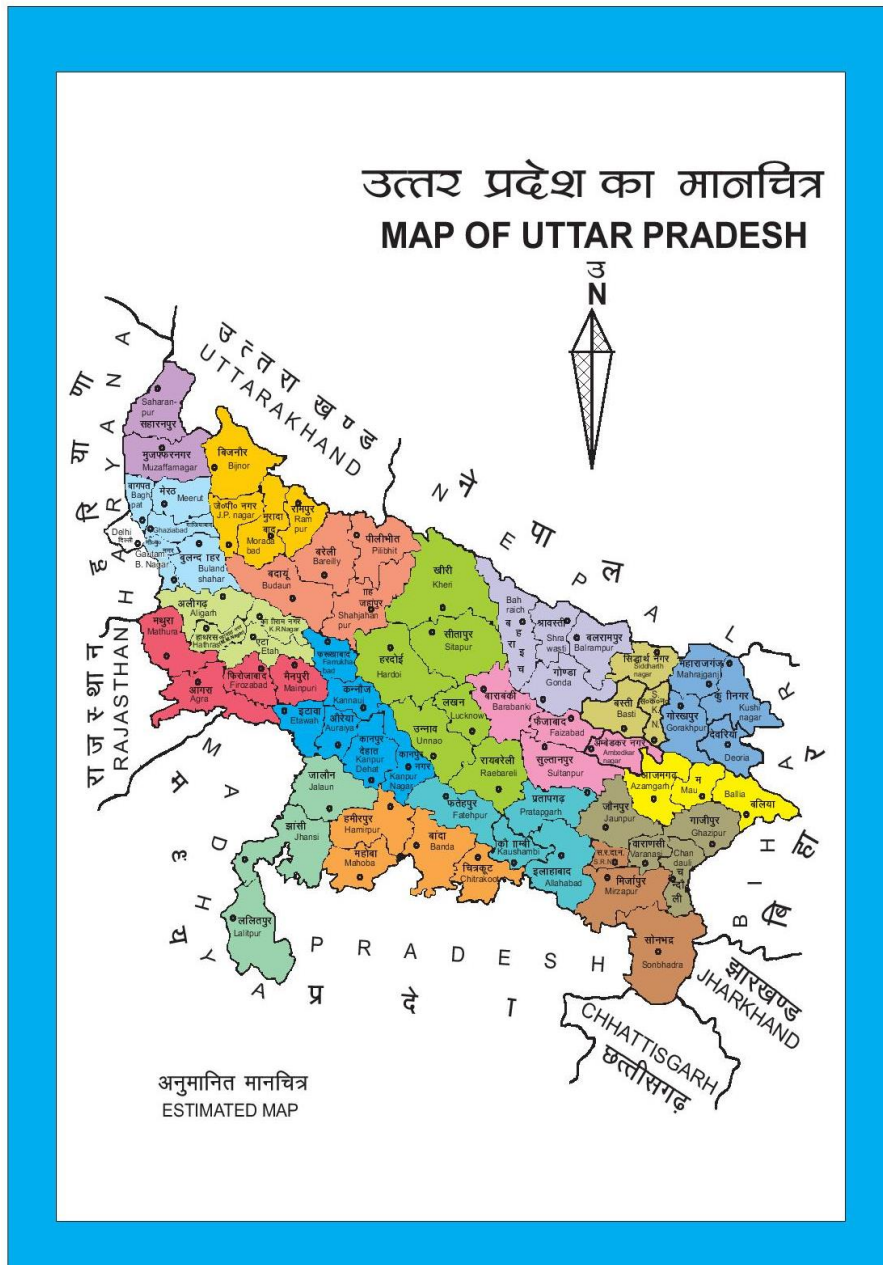
$$\text{Effective Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Persons aged 7 and above} \times 100}{\text{Population aged 7 and above}}$$

Effective literacy rate and literacy rate have been used interchangeably in this study.

## 3. STUDY AREA

Uttar Pradesh is the most populated state in India. It has also a highest Muslim population of India. Lucknow is the Capital of Uttar Pradesh. Its principal language is Hindi and Urdu, Awadhi, Braj Bhasha, Bundeli, Kannauji and Khariboli are also the other languages. It is bestowed with a variety of geographical land and cultural diversities. It is bound by Nepal and Utrakhand on the North, Himachal Pradesh on the northwest, and Haryana on the west, and Rajasthan on the southwest, Madhya Pradesh on the south and south- west and Bihar on the east. Situated between 23° 52' N and 31° 28' N latitudes and 77° 3' and 84° 39'E longitudes, this is the fourth largest state in the country.

According to the Census 2011, Uttar Pradesh is one of the most thickly populated states in India for a long time now. Its population is about 190 million according to the Uttar Pradesh Census 2011. It has also the highest growth rate of about 20%. The overall literacy rate of Uttar Pradesh as per Census is 69.72%.



#### 4. ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

Analysis of the data is a process of inspecting, cleaning, transforming and modeling data with the goal of discovering useful information, suggesting the conclusion, and supporting decision-making.

Literacy Rates of Muslim girls in the districts which have lower and higher literacy rates in Uttar Pradesh as per Census 2001

Districts have the higher Muslim female literacy in 2001		Districts have the lower Muslim female literacy in 2001	
District	%	District	%
Mau	62.71	Shravasti	15.21
Azamgarh	60.36	Bahraich	23.13
KanpurNagar	60.06	Rampur	24.98
Ghaziapur	57.25	Balrampur	24.98
Ballia	56.78	Gonda	25.70
Lucknow	56.28	Budaun	25.78
Ambedkarnagar	56.20		
Lalitpur	54.37		

*Shravasti district* found in very low literacy district i.e. 15.21% according to the census of India 2001, economic backwardness and enlightenment towards education are the major causes of very low level of female literacy in these districts.

**Literacy Rates of Muslim girls in the districts which have lower and higher literacy rates in Uttar Pradesh as per Census 2011**

Districts have the higher Muslim female literacy in 2011		Districts have the lower Muslim female literacy in 2011	
District	%	District	%
Azamgarh	73.01	Shravasti	29.03
Mau	71.89	Budaun	35.75
Ghaziapur	69.43	Baharich	35.88
Ambedkarnagar	68.11	Mathura	37.20
Kanpurnagar	67.87	Bareilly	38.06
Ballia	67.78	Kanshiramnagar	38.72
Lalitpur	67.74		

Shravasti district is the lowest in the Muslim female literacy which is 29.03%, also lowest in the region. Economic backwardness and enlightenment towards education are the major cause of very low level of Muslim female literacy in these districts.

**The literacy level of Muslim girls in highest and lowest districts between two censuses i.e. 2001 and 2011.**

Districts of very high literacy rate 2001	Districts of very high literacy rate 2011
Azamgarh (60.36%)	Azamgarh (73.01%)
Mau (62.71%)	Mau (71.89%)
Kanpur Nagar (60.06%)	Kanpur Nagar (67.87%)
Districts of very low literacy rate 2001	Districts of very low literacy rate 2011
Shravasti (15.21%)	Shravasti (29.03%)

According to Census 2001, Azamgarh District of Uttar Pradesh showed the highest literacy rate of Muslim girls, this shows that the Muslim girl's education is too good and they take primary education at the time. Also, Mau and Kanpur districts showed good literacy rate and it is nearby to Azamgarh district, it is a good sign that the Muslim girls are well educated in these districts and go to school properly. But if we look at Shravasti district, it has very low literacy rate i.e. 15.21%. It means that there is no awareness about the education of Muslim girls in Muslim families, it may be due to poorness, low standard, more children in a family, not focused on girls education etc. So, all these factors may be the reasons for their poor literacy rate in this district. On the other hand, in 2011, the condition is also the same. But some improvement showed in all these four districts. Therefore, the Muslim girls' literacy rates are different in all the districts and show more variation.

**5. ACCORDING TO CENSUS OF INDIA 2001**

According to census of India 2001 it is evident from the given chart that the female literacy rate in all communities of Uttar Pradesh Hindu, Muslim, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jain and others, Religions not Stated, only Jain community is the highest female literacy rate 92.26% among the different community of Uttar Pradesh followed by the Christians 67.36%, Sikhs 63.76%, others 52.03%, Religions not Stated 45.06%. According to the given chart, females which belong to Muslim community have the lowest literacy rate of 37.38% followed by the Buddhists 40.29%, Hindus 43.08% respectively. It is described in the given figure that Muslim women in Uttar Pradesh are the educationally backward as compared to all other communities, if we compare the highest and lowest female literacy rate in Uttar Pradesh, found the gaps between highest (Jain) and lowest (Muslim), it is about 52 percent and the gap between Rural and Urban area, it is about 45 percent.

**Literacy level of Muslim girls between two senses among the Muslim Community and all the other Communities of Uttar Pradesh (2001)**

	Total	Muslim	Muslim Boys	All Muslims	Hindu	Christian	Buddhist	Sikh	Jain	Others	Religion not stated
<b>Literacy Rate</b>	56.27	47.79	Total=57.28 R=54.93 U= 61.21	Total=47.79 R=43.72 U=54.64	57.98	72.85	56.21	71.92	93.21	63.98	58.49
<b>Girls Literacy Rate</b>	42.22	37.38			43.08	67.36	40.29	63.76	90.29	52.03	45.06
<b>Girls Literacy Rate in Rural Areas</b>	36.90	31.58			37.74	44.88	37.24	52.61	77.88	39.23	40.06
<b>Girls Literacy Rate in Urban Areas</b>	61.73	47.31			67.92	82.52	58.73	86.29	92.26	84.67	62.64

### 6. ACCORDING TO CENSUS REPORT OF 2011

in this given table only Jain community female literacy level is high in Uttar Pradesh which is 94.05%, all other community of Uttar Pradesh which is followed by Christian 73.63%, Sikhs 79.35%, others 71.11%, Religion is not stated 70.01%. Females, which belong to the Muslim community, have the lowest literacy rate 58.76% and followed by Buddhists community female literacy rate which is 68.59%, Hindu community female literacy is 69.68% respectively. According to the census report of 2011, literacy level in Muslim community have increased a little, thereby gap between Jain community and the Muslim community is about 36% between the rural and urban area which is the lowest and the highest literacy in the community.

#### Literacy level of Muslim girls between two senses among the Muslim Community and all the other Communities of Uttar Pradesh (2011)

	Total	Muslim	Muslim Boys	All Muslims	Hindu	Christian	Buddhist	Sikh	Jain	Others	Religion not stated
Literacy Rate	67.68	58.76	Total=66.42 R= 66.06 U=67.00	Total=58.76 R=56.79 U=61.94	69.68	73.63	68.59	79.35	94.05	71.11	70.01
Girls Literacy Rate	57.18	50.59	----	----	58.61	67.54	57.07	73.15	92.16	61.30	60.84
Girls Literacy Rate in Rural Areas	53.65	47.04	----	----	54.82	53.98	54.35	64.74	78.37	51.84	55.42
Literacy Rate in Urban Areas	69.22	56.44	----	----	74.96	80.92	72.81	90.18	94.27	81.72	70.56

### CONCLUSION

The researcher reached the conclusion in this study and found that the literacy rate of Muslim girls in Uttar Pradesh is low i.e. is not satisfactory and needs special attention. Most of the districts of Uttar Pradesh are very poor in Muslim girls' education, only some of the districts have good literacy rate. Shravasti district has lowest literacy rate in both censuses i.e. 15.21 per cent according to 2001 census and 29.03 per cent according to 2011 census. So, literacy level of Muslim girls in Uttar Pradesh should be better with removing all problems i.e. financial constraint, parental objection, early marriage etc. for giving them better future.

### REFERENCES

1. Directorate of Census Operation, RGI, New Delhi.
2. Economics and Statistics Division State Planning Institute, Uttar Pradesh (2009).
3. Five Year Plans, Planning Commission, Govt. of Indi, Ali, Hussain, Nazmul & Hannan, Akram (2011).
4. The government of India (2001), Census Report, 2001 New Delhi, India. [www.census.gov.in](http://www.census.gov.in).
5. R.C. Mishra: *Women Education*, A.P.H. Publishing Corporation, New Delhi, 2005.
6. Saxena, N. C. (1983): Public Employment and Educational Backwardness of Muslims in India. *Man and Development*, 4, 116-132.
7. Siddiqui F. (2010): '*Literacy and work participation among Muslims in Uttar Pradesh*' *Journal of Geography and Regional Planning* Vol. 4 (6), pp. 305-325, June 2011.
8. Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) Yojana: A scheme to provide education to all, an initiative of Ministry of HRD.