



## **Settlement Pattern in Buldhana District: A Geographical Review**

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### **Introduction:**

Human settlements are the representation of human culture. We can understand the human culture with the help of it. Human settlement does not only mean the stability but the mark of human culture of settlement also have history just has human culture. Settlements also through the process of origin, development and definition the time of which is not certain it depends upon the location. Settlement geography had evolved into an investigation of the relation between cities and the natural environment. During the next decade the early emphasis on urban morphology declined and the historical approach developed to near suffocating proportion.

Shelter is one of the most important basic necessities of human being. These shelter places become the most concrete expressions of human cultural activity and assume various forms as well as names. The unit of settlement, however, may range from a slum dwelling to bungalow of metropolitan city. The ultimate goal of human activity is his own welfare while settling somewhere on the earth. Settlement are human dwelling of various sizes distributed in Geographic space by a set of occupational forces within the environmental consideration related to water supply, fertile soils, and safe location. The distributional characters of settlement refer to their frequency and spatial organization in a given space. It is also attempted to study the size of villages, urban centres and their characteristics.

### **Objectives:**

The prime objective of this research paper is to analyse the settlement pattern in Jalna district.

**Data Collection & Methodology:**

For the current paper, data has been collected from the census handbook, census of India website, district socio-economic analysis book, and other related secondary sources. Figures of census have been processed with statistical tools in order to prepare tables.

**Study Region:**

Buldhana is a district in the Amravati division of Maharashtra state in western India at the westernmost border of Vidarbha region and is 500 km from the state capital, Mumbai. Buldhana district is located in the central part of the state of Maharashtra. Akola, Jalgaon, Jalna, and Parbhani districts are the adjoining districts to the East, West, and South respectively. The Narmada district of Madhya Pradesh is in the North. The Buldhana district lies between 19°51' to 21°17' North Latitude and 75°57' to 76°49' East Longitude. The district consists of five subdivisions and thirteen blocks. The district Head Quarters is at Buldhana. Buldhana district has an area of around 9,680 square kilometers. The distances of the other major towns from Buldhana is Aurangabad (180 KM), Pune (425 KM), Amravati (200 KM), Nagpur (350 KM).

**Settlement Pattern in Buldhana District (2011):**

The detailed settlement pattern of the Buldhana district is given in table 1.

Table No.1

**Details of Settlement in Buldhana District (2011)**

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Number of villages	Number of Towns	Number of households	Total Population
1	Jalgaon (Jamod)	110	1	33861	156623
2	Sangrampur	95	0	30590	137092
3	Shegaon	67	1	33751	156116
4	Nandura	102	1	39058	176018
5	Malkapur	66	1	38487	178534
6	Motala	109	0	36334	166598
7	Khamgaon	135	1	70208	320644
8	Mehkar	139	1	58474	268316



Sr. No.	Tahsil	Number of villages	Number of Towns	Number of households	Total Population
9	Chikhli	134	1	62739	285321
10	Buldhana	96	2	60847	286992
11	Deulgaonraja	60	1	26029	125350
12	Sindkhedraja	104	1	38045	176303
13	Lonar	83	1	33081	152351
	Buldhana District	1300	12	561504	2586258

Source: Computed by Researcher

Table 1 shows that, there are 1300 villages in the Buldhana district. Highest number of villages is observed in Mehkar (139) whereas lowest number of villages is observed in Deulgaonraja tahsil (60). Sangrampur, Lonar, Malkapur and Buldhana tahsil has less than 100 villages whereas above 100 villages is observed in Jalgaon Jamod, Motala, Sindkhedraja, Nandura, Chikhli tahsil.

Regarding towns, it is observed that, as a total there are 12 towns. Out of total, only Buldhana tahsils have 2 towns whereas Jalgaon jamod, Shegaon, Malkapur, Khamgaon, Deulgaonraja, Sindkhedraja, Lonar, Mehkar and Chikhali has only 1 town each. No town has been observed from the tahsils of Motala and Sangrampur tahsil. As far as the households are concerned, it is noted that, Khamgaon tahsil (70208) has the highest number of households whereas least observed from Deulgaonraja tahsil (26029).

There are total 561504 households in the district. It is noticed from the figures of the household that, Khamgaon tahsil has more than 70000 households whereas 35000 to 70000 households has been observed from Chikhli, Buldhana, Mehkar, Nandura, Malkapur, Sindkhedraja, Motala and Jalgaon (Jamod). Below 35000 households has been noticed from the tahsils of Shegaon, Lonar, Sangrampur and Deulgaonraja tahsil.



**Table No. 2**  
**Buldhana district: Villages, Population and Size Group**  
**(Census 2011 )**

Sr. No	Tahsil	No. of Villages	Population size					Class, name and civic status of Town
			Below 500	500 to 2000	2000 to 5000	5000 to 10,000	Above 10,000	
1	Jalgaon (Jamod)	110	42	51	14	2	1	MC-III
2	Sangrampur	95	25	52	12	5	1	GP
3	Shegaon	67	11	46	6	4	0	MC-II
4	Nandura	102	23	62	14	2	1	MC-III
5	Malkapur	66	16	30	18	1	1	MC-II
6	Motala	109	16	73	16	2	2	GP
7	Khamgaon	135	29	65	36	4	1	MC-II
8	Mehkar	139	19	91	25	3	1	MC-III
9	Chikhli	134	17	78	34	4	1	MC-II
10	Buldhana	96	16	49	23	5	3	MC-II
11	Deulgaonraja	60	3	50	5	1	1	MC-III
12	Sindkhedraja	104	9	79	13	2	1	MC-III
13	Lonar	83	13	49	20	1	0	MC-III
	Buldhana District	1300	239	775	236	36	14	--

Source: Compiled by Researcher (# - Nagar Panchayat, \* - Gram Panchayat)

It is clear from the table 2 that, there were 18.38 percent villages with a population of less than 500. In this category Jalgaon Jamod recorded highest number of villages (42) and Deulgaonraja tahsils recorded least villages (3). The medium size villages with population size of 500-2000 were 59.62 percent, which form a major population size in the district. In this category, highest number of villages has been observed in Mehkar tahsil (91) whereas lowest in Malkapur (30).

Further, there were 18.15 percent villages with a population size of 2000-5000.



In this category, highest number of villages has been observed in Khamgaon tahsil (36) whereas lowest in Deulgaonraja (5). However, the large size villages with more than 5000 population were only 2.77 percent. Highest number of village i.e. 5 is recorded by Sangrampur and Buldhana tahsil whereas only 1 village is recorded by Malkapur, Deulgaonraja, and Lonar tahsil. The above 10,000 population group has only 14 villages (1.08 percent) in the study region. Out of 13 tahsils in the district, 11 tahsils has shown villages in this category. Only one village per tahsil is found in 9 tahsils, 2 villages in one tahsil and 3 villages in one tahsil in the same category.

### Conclusions:

On the detailed study of settlement pattern in Buldhana district, it is concluded that, there are 1300 villages in the Buldhana district. Highest number of villages is observed in Mehkar (139) whereas lowest number of villages is observed in Deulgaonraja tahsil (60). There are 12 towns., out of which, only Buldhana tahsils have 2 towns whereas Jalgaon jamod, Shegaon, Malkapur, Khamgaon, Deulgaonraja, Sindkhedraja, Lonar, Mehkar and Chikhali has only 1 town each. As far as the households are concerned, it is noted that, Khamgaon tahsil (70208) has the highest number of households whereas least observed from Deulgaonraja tahsil (26029). These analysis reveals that, the district is rural dominancy.

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