

A North Indian village that changed, 1954-2010

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What social, economic and cultural changes have occurred in Khaalaapur since 1954 when Cornell and Lucknow Universities conducted a base line study prior to government efforts to effect change?

This study is based on a comprehensive census survey of the entire village carried out in 1954, 1968, 1979, 2001 combined with anthropological observations conducted on twenty visits of three to nine month duration following an initial two year residence. Statistical techniques of microdemography are used to assess changes in occupation, education, fertility, and urban migration.

Most of the community development goals set forth in 1954 have been achieved! This includes land reform, the construction of all weather roads, the multiple creations of schools including access to colleges and ITI institutes, upgrading of medical facilities including regular vaccination programs, the decline in overt discrimination against untouchables, and the education of 80 percent of upper caste women.

An assessment of the forces that contributed to these changes will then be ventured with the hope that other participants will help relate these micro findings to macro issues and policies.