

A P P E N D I X E S

APPENDIX - I

GLOSSARY OF SOME MUSLIM TERMS

- Adam The First man created by God .
- Allah God.
- Ahmadia A Muslim sect popularly known as Qadiani. It
ows its name after its leader Mirza Ghulam
Ahmad. This sect emerged out of reform movement
with the objectivity to combine a spirit of
Islamic orthodoxy, a sence of dedication for the
preservation of traditional values and a tendency
towards some sort of new liberalism. The position
of Ahmadia sect is controversial since its leader
proclaimed himself as a Prophet.
- Aqiga A ritual observed by sacrificing the cattle
on the name of God for long life and good health
of the new born baby.
- Ajlaf It is a status or class category in Muslim
Society. Ajlafs are the indigenous Muslims.
They enjoy a low status in Muslim community.
The term is used for the converted Muslim group
especially from lower Hindu caste.
- Ajan Call for prayer.
- Amir Richman .
- Asraf The term used to identify the Muslims claiming
descent from the four groups of foreign
extraction or origin, namely Sayyad, Shaikh,
Mughal and Pathan. They enjoyed higher position
in Muslim society. It is a status category in
Muslim society.

- Ayat Stanza from the Quran
- Baqar id A day of sacrifice.
- Barelvi A sub sect within the Sunni sect which adherent of the religious (Sunni) philosophy as interpreted by Ahmed Raza Khan of Bareilly in U. P. The followers of this school tend to accept without much criticism the traditional social, cultural and religious customs of the people. Consequently the presence of vast amount of elements of little tradition is noticed among them. They are much more integrated with the local society. They are traditionalists and thus less influenced by fundamentalism and modernism. Clientship of the Saint or Pir is an another important character of this group and they believe in its hereditary form. Majority of the Bengal Muslims, particularly the peasants are belonging to this category.
- Beradari Brotherhood based of kinship.
i.e. kin circle.
- Bhabi Brother's wife.
- Burkha Loose garment of black or white colour covering the entire body with veiled, opening of the eyes, worn by Muslim women. The use of Burkha among the women of Bengal Muslim Community is very uncommon.
- Chhotoloke A status category consisting the people of degraded nature.
- Chhotojat Ethnic or Social groups of low status.

Deobandi

A sub sect within Sunni sect adherent of the religious view point represented by the Deoband Theological Seminary situated at Saharanpur in Western Uttar Pradesh. The basic objective of this school is to purify the Sunni Han^afis from a number of practices those they have retained in their little tradition.

The Pre-Islamic past of the Muslims are denounced and condemned by this school. Islamization in pure form is the basic objective of this school. They do not accept the hereditary nature of Pirism, but follow it only by considering their capability in religious field. They have the missionary wing called Tablique-jamat.

Deor

Husband's younger brother

Dulabhai

Elder Sister's husband. In several areas of Bengal Dulabhai is also called Bonai.

Esha

The prayer time after sunset.

Garibloke

A status category among the Muslims, basically to indicate the poor people or commoners both in economic and cultural terms.

Hadish

Tradition i.e. the recorded sayings of the Prophet, what He said and did.

Haj

Pilgrimage to Mecca

Haji

The person who performed haj in Mecca.

Halua

Variety of traditional sweet dish prepared in Muslim households.

Hijra

The Prophet's journey from Medina to Mecca. The Muslim era dates from this year i.e. A.D. 622.

<u>Id-ul-Fitar</u>	First day of the month of Shawal. It is marked by breaking of <u>Ramjan</u> fast (roja), congregation prayer and helping of poor. It is the most important religious festival of the Muslims.
<u>Izzat</u>	Prestige and respect.
<u>Jamaat</u>	Gathering of the people.
<u>Jat</u>	Endogamous social unit (grouping) enjoying specific status in the society.
<u>Jamidar</u>	Landlord, popularly known as <u>Aimadar</u> in Muslim Society.
<u>Jori</u>	Gold or silver threads usually used for embroidery works.
<u>Jumma</u>	Friday prayer.
<u>Kaba</u>	The sacred house in Mokka around which there are Pilgrims for performing Haj.
<u>Kabar-Sthan</u>	Burial ground of the Muslims.
<u>Kafir</u>	Non believer of God (<u>Allah</u>).
<u>Kalema</u>	A pillar of Islam, which belief in one God and Muhammad is its last Prophet.
<u>Kazi</u>	The Muslim judge. Also to mean the Muslim marriage registrar.
<u>Khandan</u>	The lineage members i.e., the Consanguinal kin group which traces common descent through known ancestors. In Bengal Muslims Commonly call it <u>Bangso</u> .
<u>Khirki</u>	Backside of the homestead usually meant for the use of the women due to <u>Parda</u> rules.
<u>Khir</u>	Sweet dish prepared from rice and sugar or molases.
<u>Masjid</u>	Mosque i.e., the house of prayer.

<u>Madrasa</u>	School which teaches Islamic tradition among the learners.
<u>Mauluvi</u>	A man learned in Islamic knowledge. Also called as <u>Mullah</u> i.e. the Muslim priest and teacher.
<u>Magrib</u>	Daily evening prayer particularly after sunset.
<u>Majlis</u>	Social or religious gathering of the people.
<u>Mazar</u>	Abode or tomb of the Muslim Saint or <u>Pir</u> .
<u>Mehar</u>	Dower promised by the groom to his bride at the time of marriage.
<u>Mehaman</u>	Respectable and honourable guests.
<u>Milad Sharif</u>	Religious discourse by recitation of religious book, which held on various socio-religious occasions of the Muslims.
<u>Milad-un-Nabi</u>	Birthday of the Prophet.
<u>Mohalla</u>	Neighbourhood. Also called as <u>malat</u> or <u>grami</u> .
<u>Muharram</u>	First month of the Muslim Calendar. A religious festival is also held on this month to commemorate the martyrdom of Hassan and Hussain-the son of <u>Ali</u>
<u>Mughal</u>	An ethnic and social category among the Muslims, who are descended from Mughal conquerors in India.
<u>Mujahab</u>	Groupings based on religious laws and faiths.
<u>Namaj</u>	The Islamic form of prayer or worship.
<u>Na-pak</u>	Impurity.
<u>Nawab</u>	Muslim ruler or emperor.
<u>Nandai</u>	A kin term to refer husband's sister's husband.
<u>Nikah</u>	Marriage.
<u>Nikah-name</u>	Certificate of Muslim marriage.

<u>Orna</u>	A piece of cloth meant to cover head and shoulders of the women.
<u>Pan</u>	Betel leaf .
<u>Pak or Paksaf</u>	Cleanliness and purity.
<u>Panchayat</u>	Informal village Council. Also known as <u>Soloana</u> .
<u>Parda</u>	Seclusion and Veiling of women
<u>Pak-Panja-tan</u>	Sacred five in Islam.
<u>Pathan</u>	An ethnic and social category of the Muslims. They claimed to have descended from Afgan conquerors.
<u>Pir</u>	Muslim Saint. Also called as <u>Sufi</u> .
<u>Qadiria</u>	A Sufi order which believe in freedom of will.
<u>Quran</u>	The revealed word of God i.e., <u>Allah</u> recorded in the holy book.
<u>Quresh</u>	A tribe of Middle East.
<u>Rabi-al-awal</u>	Third month of Islamic Calendar.
<u>Ramjan</u>	Nine month of Islamic calendar. Considered as holy month of daily fasting. In this month the Quran was revealed to the Prophet.
<u>Roja</u>	Fasting.
<u>Riba</u>	Interest and usury.
<u>Rishta</u>	Marriage proposal. Also to mean kinship and relationship.
<u>Sabab</u>	Virtue, good action.
<u>Sadar</u>	The front side of the home usually used by the male members.

- Salam The Islamic way of greeting, by bowing down, with the righthand raised to the forehead as a mark of respect.
- Sayyad An ethnic and social category among the Muslims, who occupy the highest rank. They believed to have come (descended) from the daughter of the Prophet and her husband Ali, the fourth Khalifa of Islam.
- Seemai A special kind of sweet dish cooked with milk.
- Shafei A school of Islamic jurisprudence.
- shariat The sacred laws of Islam. The main source of its guidance is the Quran and the Hadish.
- Shabe-barat Fourteenth day of the month of Shaban in Islamic Calendar. Muslims believe that the God records the duties of his believers for the ensuing year on this night.
- Sharbat Soft drink, consisting of mixture of sugar and water.
- Shaikh An ethnic and social category among the Muslims enjoying superior position in Muslim society. The literary meaning of Shaikh is the chief. They believed to have descended from Arab ancestors.
- Shia A Muslim sect, followers of Ali, the fourth Khalifa of Islam.
- Shirni Sweet distributed after religious offerings.

<u>Silsila</u>	The school of thought and action of a specific Sufi order. Each of the <u>pir</u> cultivate their spiritual practices according to particular order called <u>Silsila</u> .
<u>Sunnah</u>	The precepts and practices of the Prophet.
<u>Sunnat</u>	Religious obligation.
<u>Sura</u>	Any of the Chapters (114) of the <u>Quran</u> .
<u>Sunni</u>	A religious sect of the Muslims. It is the largest Muslim sect. Its followers believe in the elected caliphate. The Sunnis are the traditionalists.
<u>Talak</u>	Divorce .
<u>Taravi</u>	Special Muslim Prayer during the month of Ramjan.
<u>Tajiya</u>	Representation of the mausoleum or tombs of Hassan and Hussain, sons of Ali, who lost their lives at Karbala.
<u>Tauhid</u>	The belief in the oneness of God.
<u>Ucchu-jat</u>	Higher status people on the basis of ethnic and cultural superiority.
<u>Wahabi</u>	A sub sect within the Sunni sect.
<u>Wazu</u>	Ritual Purification of body prior to prayer or <u>namaj</u> .
<u>Zakat</u>	An Islamic approach of tax payment. About 40% of the personal income of every kind is levied on Muslims for the relief of the poor.
<u>Zelhaj</u>	Twelve month of Islamic Calendar. The occasion of Pilgrimage to holy Mokka takes place on this month.
<u>Ziyarat</u>	To pay homage.

Household & Transport Equipments;

Radio/T. V./T. R./R. P./Cycle/Motor Cycle/others (specify)

Live stocks :

Remarks :

Signature :

Dated :

Research Schedule

Women in Muslim Society of Rural West Bengal

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1. Name :
2. Address in full :
3. Age :
4. Education of respondent :
5. Marital Status :
6. Education of husband :
7. Place of Birth :
8. Place of Residence :
9. Social group :
10. Does your family keep a servant Full time/part time.

Yes/No,

(2)

II Family Data :

1. Who is the head of the family ? *Self/Father/Husband/Mother/Other specific*
2. What is your total family income ? (from all sources and persons)

3. In your family who makes the final decision on the following ?

a) Family budgeting :

b) Purchase or real estate :

c) Purchase of consumer goods :

d) Schooling of children :

e) Career of children :

f) Marriage of children :

g) Rituals, & festivals :

	Head of the family	Jointly	Self

4. In your family who spends the family income ?

5. How do you manage your household responsibility on the following :

a) Cooking and serving food :

b) Purchase of grocery and vegetable :

c) Washing clothes and utensils :

d) Cleaning the house :

e) Care of Children :

f) Care of Sick :

g) Help children in studies :

	Alone	Sharing with relatives	Sharing with husband

(3)

6 Do you observe in your family the following traditional customer :

Always

Some-time

Never

- a) Female members eating only after male members :
- b) Female members standing in presence of male member :
- c) Seperate appartment for women :
- d) Restriction on the freedom of women outside the family ? (Social visits, Shopping etc)
- e) Restriction on travelling :
- f) Restriction on going out for work :
- g) Restriction on meeting outside people :
- h) Preferential treatment for boys over girls : (in serving food, education and other privileges at home etc) :
- i) Restriction on entertaining (receiving guests] :

III Educational Data

1. Who prompted you to get education ?

2. What is your objective of education ?

3. At what age did you get married ?

4. Do you feel there is restriction in education in your community ?

Always

Some times

Never

5. Do you prefer higher education for your son ?

6. Do you prefer higher education for your daughter ?

7. Do you prefer co-educational study for your children ?

8. Reasons for not continuing further studies of the respondent :

9. Reasons for not continuing further studies of the respondent children.

IV Women In The Wider Society :

1. Are you a member of any professional or cultural organization ?

1. President
2. Secretary
3. Committee members
4. Ordinary members.

2. Do you participate in the activities of the organization ?

1. Very Actively
2. Actively

3. Do you go alone or need company when you go out ?

1. Yes
- 2- No

4. When you go out for shopping, how do you go ?

1. Alone
2. With friends
3. With husband/relatives
4. No shopping.

5. What is your attitude towards eating in restaurants ?

1. Favourable
2. Unfavourable

6. How often do you go to restaurants ?

1. Occasionally
2. Rarely
3. Never.

7. How do you usually spend your leisure time ?

1. Listening to Radio
2. Reading
3. Going for movies
4. Special [others]

8. Do you spend time in traditional hobbies.
[sewing, knitting etc].

1. Yes
2. No

9. Do you read Newspaper/magazines

1. Daily
2. Occasionally
3. Never.

(6)

10. What are your extracurricular activities ?
1. Singing
 2. Dancing
 3. Athletics
 4. Anyother [specific]
11. Did you vote in the last election ?
1. Yes
 2. No
12. Are you interested in politics ?
1. Yes
 2. No
13. Do you discuss politics with people you know ?
1. Always
 2. Never
 3. Sometimes
14. Do you know the members of women members, their ratio in different political parties in your area ?
1. Yes
 2. No

V Attitudes Towards Certain Practices :

1. What is your attitude towards dowry system ?
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
2. Do you consider that dowry sytem gives status to a woman ?
1. Yes
 2. No
3. According to you what is the appropriate age of marriage for the girl.
4. What is your attitude towards choice of partner.
1. Parents selection
 2. Individual selection

(7)

5. What sort of marriage is yours
1. Arranged
 2. Love marriage
6. If love marriage what was the reactions of your family members
1. Favourable
 2. Unfavourable
7. In the view of changing social conditions do you propose to abolish the ethnic/class hierarchy
- | | <u>ethnic</u> | <u>class</u> |
|--------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 2. No | No | No |
8. Do you approve of inter religions marriage
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
9. Do you approve of divorce
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
10. Do you approve of widow remarriage
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
11. Do you approve of polygamy
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
12. Do you approve of equal right for men and women
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
13. Do you think that woman should have equal status with men in society
1. Yes
 2. No
14. What is your reaction towards modern dress (ultra modern dresses etc)
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
15. According to you what is the ideal number children ?

16. What is your attitude towards family planning
1. Approve
 2. Disapprove
17. What is your attitude towards employment of women
1. Favourable
 2. Unfavourable
18. Do you think that employment and education gives them a higher status in Society ?
1. Yes
 2. No
19. What are your relatives attitude towards working women ?
1. Favourable
 2. Unfavourable

VI Attitude Towards Religion :

1. Do you pray regularly ? Yes / No
2. Do you think that it is essential ? Yes / No
3. Do you observe fasting (during Ramzan) ? Yes / No
4. Do you think fasting is necessary ? Yes / No
5. Do you read Religious book ? (Quran) Yes / No
6. How often ? Daily / Weekly / Monthly / once in a year / Never
7. Have you visited any religious place ? Yes / No