

CONTENTS

List of Tables.....	i
Acronyms.....	ii
Acknowledgement	
Map of Siraha District	
CHAPTER-I: Introduction.....	1-32
• Statement of the Problem.....	1
• Historical Background of the Dalits.....	5
• Chamars.....	9
• Review of Literature.....	13
• Objectives of the Study.....	28
• Methods of the Study.....	29
CHAPTER-II: The Lahan Municipality.....	33-81
• Population Profile.....	33
• Housing Conditions.....	35
• Female Ownership on House and Land.....	36
• Gender and Household Head.....	36
• Literacy Status.....	37
• Educational Attainment.....	37
• Religion.....	38
• Caste and Ethnic Composition.....	38
• Mother Tongue.....	40
• Economy and Employment Situation.....	41
• Occupation.....	41
• Health and Sanitation.....	43
• Chamars of Lahan.....	44

• Population of Chamars.....	46
• Population Size.....	46
• Literacy Status of Chamar.....	48
• Economy of Chamars.....	49
• Occupational Pattern.....	50
• Landholding Pattern.....	51
• Income.....	52
• Expenditure.....	53
• Indebtedness.....	53
• Livestock.....	54
• Trade and Commerce.....	55
• Religion.....	56
• Religious Belief and Practices.....	57
• Rituals relating to Birth.....	60
• Rituals relating to Death.....	61
• Family.....	63
• Marriage.....	64
• Dress.....	67
• Ornaments.....	68
• Food Habit.....	68
• Habitation and Housing.....	69
• Festivals.....	69
• Daily Routine.....	70
• Caste Meeting.....	71
• Domestic Violence against Women.....	74
• Health Service Practices.....	75
• Practice of Untouchability at the Public Place.....	76

• Political Life of the Chamars.....	77
• Political Consciousness.....	77
• Political Association.....	78
• Political Participation.....	80
CHAPTER-III: Historical Background of the Chamar Movement....	82-113
• Background of the Movement.....	82
• The Movement in the Study Area.....	85
• Timeline of the Chamar Movement.....	95
• Learnings from the Movement.....	112
CHAPTER-IV: Present Movement of the Chamars.....	114-174
• Organizational Structure of the Chamar Movement.....	114
• Membership.....	117
• Nature of the Leadership.....	125
• Objectives of the Movement.....	125
• Participatory Process of the Movement.....	126
<u>Changes in the life of the Chamars (during and after movement)</u>	
<u>Area of Change.....</u>	130
• Change in Self Image.....	130
• Change in Demographic Characteristics.....	131
• Change in Religious Belief and Practices.....	134
• Change in Rituals Relating to Birth and Death.....	137
• Change in Marriage.....	137
• Change in Family Life.....	139
• Change in Dress and Food.....	141
• Change in Housing Pattern.....	141

• Change in Occupation.....	142
• Change in Land Ownership.....	144
• Change in the Ownership of Modern Commodities.....	145
• Change in Political Consciousness.....	146
• Change in Political Association.....	149
• Change in Political Participation.....	150
• Nature of Changes.....	151
• Factors of Change.....	156
• Change in Status (Area, Nature and Direction).....	158
➤ Adoption and Worshipping Sanskritic Deities.....	158
➤ Temble Entry.....	160
➤ Using the Services of Brahmin Priests.....	161
➤ Use of Sanskritic Literature.....	162
➤ Serving the Food to the Higher Castes.....	163
➤ Entry into the Houses of the Higher Castes.....	164
➤ Use of Wells, Roads, Schools and Hospitals.....	165
➤ Mode of Address to Persons.....	165
➤ Education.....	166
➤ Occupation.....	167
➤ Housing Pattern.....	168
➤ Participation in the Village Economic Life.....	170
➤ Participation in the Municipality.....	171
➤ Participation in the Village Politics.....	172
➤ Factors of Change.....	173
Conclusion, Suggestions and Recommendations.....	175-205
Bibliography.....	206-208
Appendix	