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Impact of wild animal invasion on human society in Ajara Tehsil: A geographical analysis

Mr. Dhiraj V. Patil

Research Scholar, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. (MH)

Prof. (Dr.) Sambhaji D. Shinde

Professor and Head Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. (MH)

Abstract--Man and animals are continually at odds over habitat and food requirements due to the expanding human population and the loss of natural environments. This topic has been acknowledged as a severe challenge by several countries. It is significant to many people. There are numerous human communities. Because they are located in thickly forested areas, forest communities are the most sensitive to this problem. The points where human needs and those of wild creatures collide In the Ajara tehsil, located in the southern part of the Kolhapur district of Maharashtra. However, no comprehensive research on man-wildlife conflict in these villages has yet been conducted. As a result, the current study aimed to identify the numerous wild creatures involved in violence in the region's forest settlements. The study discovered that three conflict animals were most typically related to the problem in these villages.

Keywords--Man and wild animal conflict, Forest, Ajara tehsil, count cases Agro economic loss.

Introduction

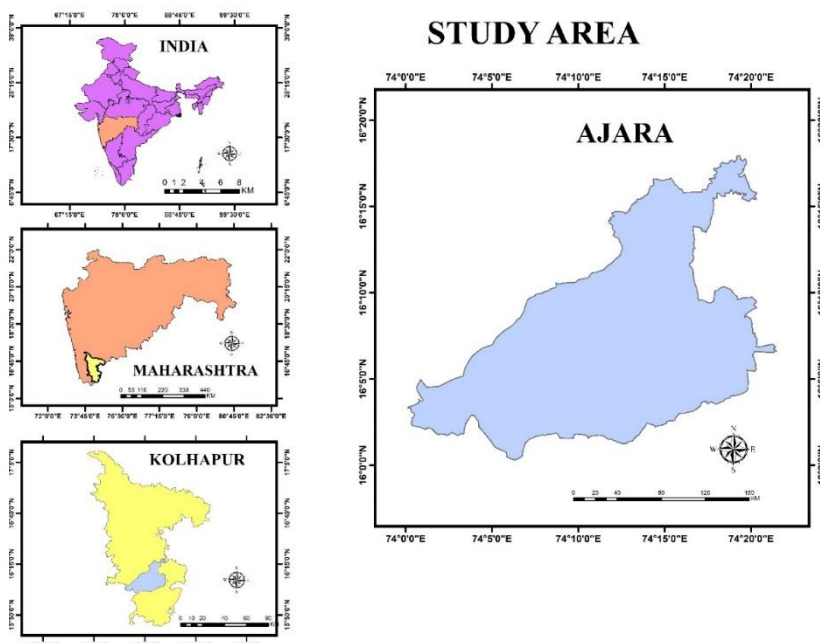
Humans have a higher level of reasoning ability than other animals. Human people are constantly attempting to improve their life through their brains. While doing so, many of humanity's developmental efforts have caused the earth's natural equilibrium to degrade. While attaining expansion, it has begun to employ the vast quantity of capital accessible on the planet in an unregulated manner. The disastrous repercussions of this have resulted in the extinction of animals. Developmental activities have a significant negative impact on the environment. According to a new report by the World Wildlife Fund, numerous animals have become endangered over the previous four decades. It went on to say that some of the surviving animals are now on the verge of extinction. According to the WWF's 2018 Living Planet Study, the significant risks to biodiversity are expanding

populations and human activities. The research also warns that the remaining species, vegetation, and fauna will face near-extinction unless immediate and effective action. It would also raise doubts about the value of human life.

In his drive for change, man is oblivious that his own life is in jeopardy. Due to progress, he has tainted the air, polluted rivers, lakes, and oceans, discarded, and swamped. Wetlands destroyed prairies and trees, sprayed pesticides over water and soil, and slaughtered animals unnecessarily for immediate profit or based on false assumptions that they were dangerous or for fashionable sport. Both alone and in conjunction with his creatures, man destroys the natural environment. Nath, C. D., and Sukumar, R (1998) Any species play an essential part in preserving ecological balance among the earth's living systems. These processes must continue to function if life is to exist. The extinction of some species puts the survival of numerous species, including humans, in jeopardy. Until there is a spiritually oriented commitment to biodiversity management and habitat protection, the human race will continue to put agriculture and forest land under stress.

Study Area

Kolhapur is an inland city in Maharashtra's southwest region, with a total size of 8.047 square kilometers from north to south and 60 kilometers from east to west. Geographically, the district of Kolhapur can be divided into three distinct regions. The Western Ghats are a mountain range in India (Sahyadri mountain range spreading from Malkapur in the north to Samangad in the South). The Panhala - Alta range runs through the district's centre, and the plateau region runs through the district's easier half. Ajara is one of the southernmost talukas in Maharashtra's Kolhapur district. It is well-known for its gorgeous and lush terrain and the Ajara Ghansaal rice. Ajara is on the path from Kolhapur to Savantwadi, Goa; it is also the last place in the Desh area before the Konkan on this route. Kolhapur is 84 kilometers away, whereas Amboli is only 33 kilometers away.



Data base methodology

Field evaluations, site inspections, interviews, group discussions with affected farmers, and GIS plotting were used to obtain primary data. Secondary data included information from Forest Department records and district census books.

Impact of Wild Animal Invasion on Human Being

A variable affects the interaction between humans and protected areas living in their vicinity. Across Asia's elephant range, conflicts between wild elephants (*Elephas maximus*) and humans vary. Elephant numbers were increasingly concentrated in limited protected areas, and residual forest habitats as human populations grow Rasmussen, L.E.L., Lee, T.D., Daves, G.D. & Schmidt, M.J. 1993. As a result, it is critical to comprehend the causes of these disputes and potential remedies to better relations between elephant-protected areas and adjacent communities. More animosity and elephant populations will continue to dwindle. Protected area managers regularly record complaints from people exposed to recurrent agricultural depredation due to the complexity of the causes. Comprehensive crop loss evaluations and tested hypotheses developed to forecast injury, on the other hand, are rarely carried out or tested theories developed to predict harm. Despite the high expense of current elephant control techniques and the prevalence of elephant-human conflict, few studies have examined why they work or do not work and the influence of varied protected area boundaries and land-use types next to elephant habitats crop-raiding. Bandara Ranjith and Clem Tisdell (2003)



Fig 1



Fig. 2

Sources Based on field work

Table 1
Ajara tehsil: Damaged area, cases and Agro economic loss

Year	Count Cases	Area (Acers)	Agro Economic loss (Rupees/Paise)
2014	644	5364.75	1956087.65
2015	777	4196.98	3018540.83
2016	850	2634.58	4334518.00
2017	888	7602.88	4989443.00
2018	1173	14549.03	7962340.46
Grand Total	4332	34,348.22	22260929.9

Sources Based on field work and records of range forest office

There are about 95 villages in Ajra taluka, and all of them have been studied through this research. In this, five years (2014 to 2018) have been selected for research. There were 644 incidents in 2014, 777 in 2015, 850 in 2016, 888 in 2017 and 1173 in 2018, which means 4332 incidents in 5 years. The conflict between humans and wildlife has been rising from 2014 to 2018. In Ajra taluka, a total area of 34348.22 acres was affected in 5 years. Furthermore, from 2014 to 2018, it was found that the agricultural economic loss has been increasing gradually, a total of 2226092.9 Rs

Conclusion

Human-elephant conflict is frequent throughout the world where elephants exist. Changes in the environment impact elephant behavior and ecology, causing them to respond in a variety of ways. The human-elephant conflict has been exacerbated by deforestation, habitat degradation, and increased human population. To combat this issue, local forest authorities and communities have tried various approaches and techniques. Unfortunately, this problem has never been able to be solved anywhere. As a result, it is critical to learn from various fields to understand what works and what does not Kulkarni Jayant, Prachi Mehta, D. Boominathan and Sujoy Chaudhuri. 2007.

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