

Social Area Analysis of Nabadwip Town, West Bengal

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Abstract : *Urban social structure is embedded in spatial arrangement of social groups in different cities. Social fabric of cities has long been the subject of scholarly attention in urban studies from a variety of approaches. Nabadwip is a very ancient & indigenous city, and is anticipated to have been founded in 1063 A.D. (The medieval period). This city is symbols of rural-urban symbiosis. Religion also played an important force for the origin of the towns, have come into being predominantly because of religious sanctity at the point of their site. The tertiary sector of the economy & diversity of jobs have altogether changed the urban milieu. The city unit including areas around its nucleus from the indigenous oriental type of common patterns visible in its uncontrolled growth & provide a mixed land use. The city represents & conflict of blending of indigenous features and hybridized modern features. Social fabric is distinguished by social areas within a city. The present study tries to analyse the social mosaic through social area analysis (SAA) in Nabadwip town. Social areas in terms of social rank, degree of urbanization and segregation have been analyzed. It is a pragmatic study based purely on field enquiry. Finally, authors have given some policy directives as to social policy of the area concerned. This paper depicts the different social areas of the town, which are classified into various pockets dominated by particular functional types such as residential, commercial, industrial or administrative etc.*

Key words: *Rural-urban symbiosis, Social fabric, Indigenous features, Religious sanctity.*

Introduction

City is a mosaic of areas performing different functions. This mosaic mirrors the divisions and inequalities of society as well. Thus, the population of any city, large or small, is not a homogeneous mass urban land use gets classified into various pockets dominated by particular functional types such as residential, commercial, industrial or administrative etc. The complex human society interacts and reacts with physical and cultural environment to produce a mosaic of urban landscape. Within this mosaic are the groupings of urban residents with similar characteristics based on their culture, behaviour and life styles. Factorial ecology is the point where urban

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ecology and social area analysis converged. It is a very useful method for the ecological differentiation of urban population by their demographic characteristics. Berry and Rees (1969) backed a systematic cross-cultural ecological analysis using factorial ecology. In the study, they focused on an investigation and interpretation of pre-industrial and industrial ecological component from the shadow of transitional developmental stage of the city. The study is overall a cross cultural research of urban ecology including changing significance of caste in the hierarchy of Indian society. In other way, Abrahamson and Johnson (1974) took the indicator of working women in their social ecological research of Madrid. The residential zones are selected as their subject. Literacy and working women are found as the best indicator. The basis of selecting the study area of Madrid is its colonial practices that are responsible for the current ecological patterns in many Latin American cities. There are different approaches to the field of urban ecology and one of the approaches is- looking at the city as an ecological system from social ecological perspective (Hultman, 1993). The city is placed as a part of the larger segment of ecosystem. The lowermost segments of social ecosystem, like- Household have the potentiality to become the subject of future urban ecological research. In the early 20s, the social ecological approach of cities is understood by the interaction between plant, animal and human ecology (Grove and Burch, 1997). Urban fabric reflects upon the differences between people or groups of people. Social areas may therefore, be understood as a form of urban regionalisation used both as a tool for constructing a typology and as an initial step in an ecological analysis. It is not bounded by the geographical frame of reference as is the natural area. It is identified by geographical area characteristics, both physical and cultural, of the people who live in it. The term social area has been used to denote a part or parts of the city in which social, economic, cultural and demographic characteristics were homogeneous or at least had a high degree of similarity. A social area has a geographical or spatial dimension. The residential mosaic of the city, often understood as urban social segregation, is brought about by the interaction of a large number of vested interests mostly aiming at social and economic welfare of individual rather than that of society. To achieve their aims, many of these groups aspire to live apart from other groups producing the demand for 'social areas'. It, therefore, becomes interesting to look into the spatial differentiation of social groups and the social and economic forces that combine to create the mosaic of such residential areas. This mosaic reveals a variety of demographic, social, ethnic, economic and housing characteristics. Governed by the above rationale, an understanding of the urban social mosaic also known as residential differentiation and residential segregation, urban morphology and Social Area have been attempted for Nabadwip town.

Objectives

The main objectives of this paper are to understand the undergoing factors

and processes in shaping of urban social fabrics and identify the areas of social interactions in the study area. The study also tries to evaluate the relation between urban morphology and social areas.

Database and methodology

The present study is based on secondary sources of data while the primary work played a vital role in the study of field check of urban functions and its spatial arrangement. The discussion with the local people enabled to understand the social and cultural aspects of the settlement. The interpretation of geographical data, map and phenomena are based on intensive field study. The population data is taken from district census handbook and primary census abstracts of different years.

Study area

Nabadwip Municipality is located in the western part of Nadia district and river Bhagirathi bound from north to east. Nabadwip Municipality lies between 88°21"E.– 88°23'E and 23°23'N - 23°26'N and the town has a total area of 11.66 sq. km. consisting of 24 wards with a population of 125543 (2011 Census). The location of the study area is shown in Figure 1. Nabadwip is an old municipal town. It was constituted as municipality in 1869. The Nabadwip police station extended over an area of 2.8 % of Nadia district which now contains an area of 3927 sq. km. It has an average elevation of 14m.

Nabadwip municipality was established in the year 1869 A.D. (Garrett 1910) with 12 commissioners of whom 8 were elected and the remainder nominated. Through-out the 150 years of its urban career, the town has grown in an unplanned manner especially during and after the partition of Bengal in 1947 A.D.

Selection of the Variables

On the basis of secondary data, Composite Index (C.I.) is prepared the data used pertained to demographic, socio economic and residential aspects, asset index and quality of life. The selected variables and the corresponding indicators are listed below.

Literacy ratio is one of the widely accepted indices in social area analysis. High level of literacy is indicative of both high level of economic development and high social status in the developing countries. This is much more so in the case of female literacy. Hence high ratios of both general literacy and female literacy were treated as indicators of high social status.

High social status was also assigned to those areas which had a higher proportion of female non workers. The female participation rate was high in those families where the per capita income was low and hence many earning hands were required to enable the family. This tendency was largely absent among the social

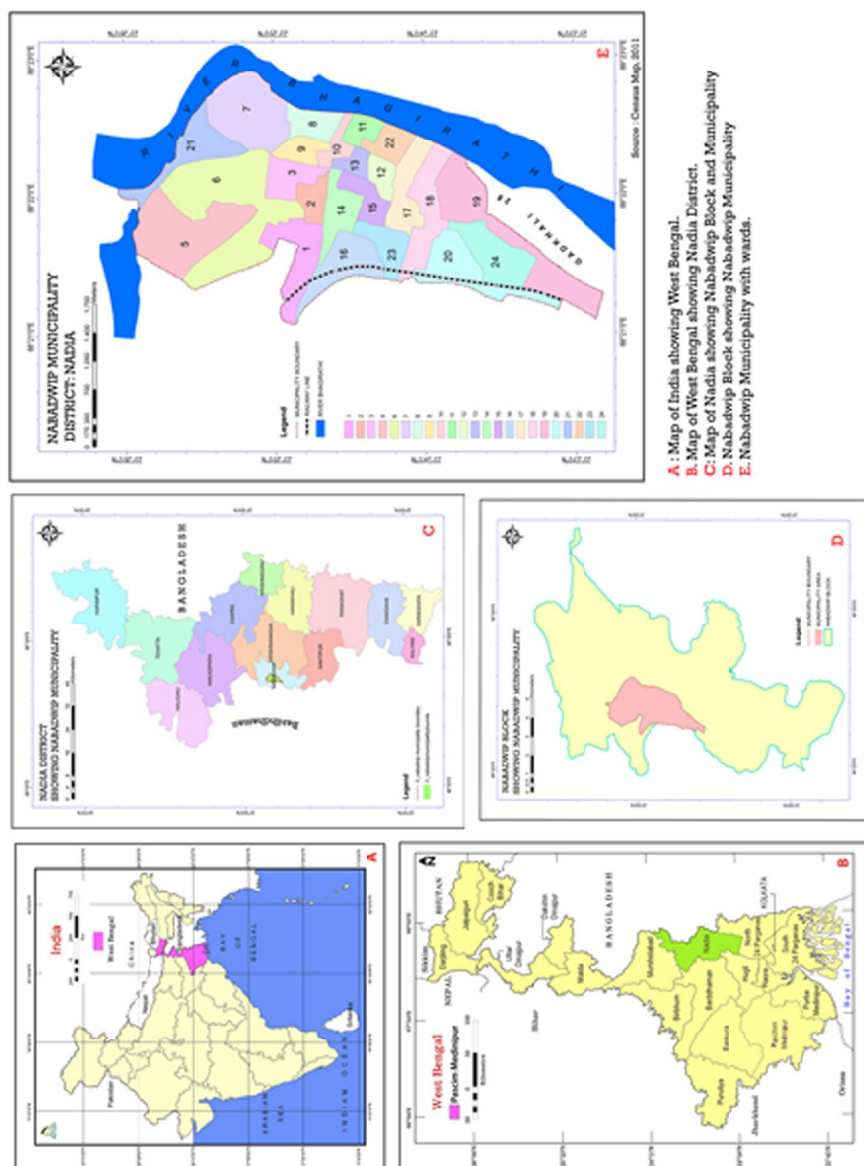


Fig. 1: Location Map of Nabadwip Municipality

elites of the town. Scheduled Castes usually belong to the lowest ladder of society. Despite a determined effort by the State and Central governments they still continue to be the most backward communities both socially and economically. The areas which have a high concentration of Scheduled caste population are the areas with low literacy rates and low incomes and are consequently low social status. Tap water connection, Banking facility and internet connections as indicators of high social and economic status as these indices a high degree of correlation coefficient with other indices of high social and economic status. Per capita income of the family is also used as one of the indices of social area analysis. Household size, number of dwelling room, residential status is also an indicator of social areas.

The obtained 'r' value (0.954) indicates the positive correlation between total worker and female worker. The r value has further been tested at 0.05 level of significance and 22 degree of freedom. The t test value (14.93) is larger than the table value (1.740) which rejects the null hypothesis and establishes the alternative hypothesis by showing a positive co-relationship between the variables stated.

Table -1. Correlation Matrix

	worker	f_worker	literate	f_literate	per/c/Inc.
Worker	1	0.954463	0.8	0.829458	-0.36194
f_worker	0.954463	1	0.704982	0.693542	-0.35071
Literate	0.8	0.704982	1	0.985901	-0.16125
f_literate	0.829458	0.693542	0.985901	1	-0.2168
Per/c/Inc.	-0.36194	-0.35071	-0.16125	-0.2168	1

Source: Computed by researcher

The obtained r value (0.829) indicates the positive correlation between total worker and female literate. The r value has further been tested at 0.05 level of significance and 22 degree of freedom. The t test value (6.96) is larger than the table value (1.740) which rejects the null hypothesis and establishes the alternative hypothesis by showing a positive co-relationship between the variables stated.

The obtained r value (0.829) indicates the positive correlation between total worker and total literate. The r value has further been tested at 0.05 level of significance and 22 degree of freedom. The t test value (6.26) is larger than the table value (1.740) which rejects the null hypothesis and establishes the alternative hypothesis by showing a positive co-relationship between the variables stated.

The obtained r value (0.694) indicates the positive correlation between female worker and female literate. The r value has further been tested at 0.05 level of significance and 22 degree of freedom. The t test value (4.54) is larger than the

table value (1.740) which rejects the null hypothesis and establishes the alternative hypothesis by showing a positive co-relationship between the variables stated.

Family Status

The core of the town houses with large households with a large number of children and disproportionate sex ratio which in favour of males. Among these households female participation in work is also high mainly due to economic pressure. Medium factor scores (moderate family status) extends over a large area in the peripheral wards towards north, west and south. It is interesting to note that this area does not form a transitional zone between high family status and low family status areas. It surrounds high and low family status areas in the old city and adjoins the high family status areas on the western periphery. Due to the medium level of factor scores it can be concluded that this area is inhabited by medium size households. With a relatively low proportion of children, a more or less balanced sex ratio and moderate or low female work participation. The low factor scores (high family status) are registered in both old and new areas of the town. In the old part they occur in an intermediate zone between the core of low family status and peripheral zone of medium family status. However the high family status gets a prominence in the eastern periphery. The inner zone of high family status includes wards where people of high and medium socio economic status particularly from the business communities live. The outer zone of high family status in the east includes wards established during the colonial period and also those which developed later under the process of sub-urbanisation. The majority of the residents of these wards belong to the political, industrial, business and professional elites. They form the core of the westernized or modernised population of the city. It is, therefore natural and these wards are characterized by a small family, small proportion of children and low fertility, all emphasizing modernity of family by the western standards.

The positive factor scores imply a large average size of households, high dependency ratio, greater proportion of large households, greater female participation in work and high sex ratio. On the contrary high negative scores imply relatively a high proportion of working age population and smaller size of household. Thus the high negative factor scores can be identified with the modernity of family or a high level of urbanization and high positive scores with tradition of family or low level of urbanization. However modernization, education and mounting economic pressure are causing middle class females to take up jobs to augment family income. This explains the high loading of female work participation in conjunction with the large size of the households in Nabadwip town. There is a tendency to decrease fertility. This is the result of increased education, availability of recreation facility and other socio economic and psychological factors generated by urbanization. On the one hand there is a minority of highly modernized people and on the other is a majority

of poor traditional people, a large section of which derives its value system from its rural origin. The latter are less assimilated in the urban environment. This explains their demographic behaviour which is naturally characterized by high fertility.

Housing Status

However in the present study housing status turns out as a separate dimension of the residential pattern in the town and shows more linkage with the variables of socio economic status than with those of family status. The highest loading of rent paid dwellings together with high positive loading of small dwelling and high negative loading of large dwelling reveal that the living space is shared by a large number of persons in small dwellings. This is further indicated by the fact that daily paid worker and service workers load high on this factor. In fact a majority of these workers are migrant workers. The desperate migration of the rural population to urban areas makes them take low paid jobs in service, trade, and other activities. A large part of the daily paid workers is migrant population from surrounding areas. This population cannot pay the rent of good and large houses but they do not like to live slum dwellers as a result they take small dwellings on rent and share it with others. Since low housing status is generally associated with the middle or lower class population, its positive relationship with fertility rate can be explained in terms of the demographic behaviour of the poor. Much of the old part of the town including wards no 8, 10, 9, 3 which form the core of the town are characterized by high factor scores is low housing status. This low housing status is further extended to the west and there are presence of greater rent paid occupancy and smaller dwellings. The low housing status core is surrounded by the wards showing moderate housing conditions. This is an extensive zone extending over more than half of the wards. This zone is occupied by educated middle and upper middle class people. In this zone houses are relatively larger nevertheless rent paid occupancy is high. In fact this houses educated immigrants, as well as indigenous wealthy people engaged in business and trade. Thus rent paid occupancy on the one hand and larger dwelling on the other account for a medium level of housing status. Another feature is that wards surroundings the core of the town are characterized with moderate level of rent paid occupation and relatively large dwellings. Perhaps it is due to the traditional significance of the city centre around which have always lived privileged families. The high rent paid occupancy and small dwellings are again found in the western part of the town.

The areas of low factor scores that is areas of good housing conditions are generally concentrated in the south western part of the town, near to railway station and this is also of high socio economic status. In this areas of high socio economic status rent paid occupancy is relatively smaller while the size of houses is relatively larger. On the contrary in the areas of low socio economic status renter occupancy is relatively great and size of houses is relatively small.

The imposition of foreign rule in this town is marked with the changes in the traditional socioeconomic set up. The function of the town were transformed from the religious, cultural and commercial functions to a high level of administration, organized commerce, transportation and industry. Moreover colonial interests themselves introduced new elements in the residential pattern. Civil line, Railway colonies, posh shopping centres, houses of local aristocrats etc. away from the indigenous part of the town were some of the new features introduced. Side by side in the old part of the town centripetal forces continued to operate.

Time and distance however started to influence residential preferences. Development of residential areas in the open land, a rather modern trend became apparent in this period. Since independence increasing education, improvements in transportation and impersonality of be autocratic and factory jobs have tended to homogenize individual life. As an outcome of this situation development of the residential pattern has started to reflect more and more economic reasoning rather than mere clustering by caste and creed. Out of the interplay of these historical and socio economic forces emerges the present residential structure of Nabadwip town.

Residential Status

The low class residential areas in the town have developed more or less in the old central core where there is work opportunity. Many house owners get more profit by low rents, keeping as many persons or families in the houses as they can and thus making the locality look like slums. Low class labourers, shopkeepers, hawkers, vegetable sellers seek residence in these place. Besides these slums of the inner zone of low status residential areas have also developed in the peripheral areas where land values are low and the environment is unhealthy and public amenities are least developed. However there is a difference between the inner and the outer slums, in the outer ones the living space per person and per family is more and there is more of air and sunlight than what it is in the inner zone slums. The middle class residences have developed on the periphery of the central areas. People prefer these areas to the town centre because in the centre the land values are higher and housing conditions are also unsatisfactory. Moreover this location just around the town centre, keeps them near to their work places which are not far from there. Middle class residential areas differ from the lower class residences of the inner zone in that the houses in the former are larger, newer and more open. Mostly the houses are double storied and stand on wider road. High class residential areas have generally developed on the outer part of the town. Upper middle class people prefer the open and well connected, well drained areas. These residential colonies consist of well-planned modern houses mostly double storied with spacious frontage. In contrast to these outlying residential areas a sector of high status residential area exists near the city core which contains the residences of the

traditional elites particularly the business elites. These people live in usually two or three storied houses built in the traditional style.

When the first census was conducted in 1872 the population of the Nabadwip municipality was 8863. Paucity of water supply, ravages of Burdwan fever between 1860 and 1872, poor agricultural activities and progressive infertility of the soil due to drying river bed resulted in depopulation through large scale death and emigration in the late nineteenth century. In the last decade of the nineteenth century fever and cholera hampered the growth of the population of Nabadwip municipality. In 1918 -1919 influenza broke-out as an epidemic and took a great toll on lives but in the 1921-31 decade the supply of filter water attracted many rural people to settle in Nabadwip town and also attracted people from the neighbouring rural areas with the opening and extension of bridges and railways. In the 1951-1961 decade the percentage grew up due to immigration from neighbour areas. In 1991-2001 decade the growth rate of population was positive but the rate was very low compared to that of the last decade due to two devastating flood in 1999 and 2000. In 1981 the concentration of population is very much higher in ward no. 11 and moderately higher among the 9 wards. The ward no 11 is the core area of the old city and it is the ancient part of the town. In the 2011 the concentration of population shows near the railway station and along the river bank for water route for trade and commerce. Depending on the observation it is evident that the twenty first century Nabadwip is divided into two clear segments. First the older section of the town, spreading over the central and eastern parts and other is the newly annexed part of Nabadwip, constituting southern and western periphery. These two domains may be termed as the “inner and outer crescent” of the town respectively. The inner area characterized by old and poor urban infrastructure, High land value and close approximation to the central Business District (CBD) and transitional land use pattern and also counter permanent migration with increased commutation. These factors resulted into a negative population growth rate in this region. On the contrary, the outer crescent of the town is featured by influx of immigrants from Bangladesh after partition of India which is responsible for increase of population in two phases 1947 and 1971 onwards due to relatively affordable land value and available housing apartments suitable for small families, resulting to maintain a positive growth rate of population in that area.

Social Areas of Nabadwip Town

The residential structure of Nabadwip following observations can be made:

The residential location of traditional elite group is found around the historical centre of the town. The congested town centre is an area of mixed commercial and residential uses and residences of the poor and elite business community exist side by side. Sectoral movement of elites has taken place outward from the town centre.

The residential areas at the margin of the town is dominated by business, professional and industrial activity and slum colony at the outskirts of the town have developed.

The town has been has been divided into following four social areas

1. Area of Economic Dynamism
2. Area of Social Elite
3. Area of Transition
4. Area of Stagnation

On the basis of total worker, female worker, female literacy, total literacy and per capita income the value of composite deviation score is higher in ward no 5, 6, 13 and 15. The ward no 7, 8, 9, 4, 14, 16, 23, 17, 18, 24, 22, 11, 12 hold moderately positive value on social aspects. The moderately negative value prevails in ward no 21, 3, 2, 19, and 20.

Morphological Division	Social Areas
CBD	Area Of Economic Dynamism
High Residential Area	Area Of Social Elite
Low Residential Area	Area Of Transition
Lower Class Residence	Area Of Stagnation

Area of Economic Dynamism

Social area is characterized by high literacy ratio, high female literacy ratio and high per capita income. The inner cores of the Nabadawip town, i.e ward no. 9, 10 fall under such an area. In Nabadwip town these are located as historical nuclei and they are continued to be socially and economically dynamic. This social area encompasses nearly all the important commercial streets of the town which are also areas of high land value. There is intense competition among different types of land uses in this area. The residential areas which cannot be termed as posh, are nonetheless, inhabited by the traditional economically elite families of the town. They mostly belong to the trading community (vaisyas). It is in this area that most of the community facilities and recreational centres are concentrated. The area is characterized by high density of population and of residential houses. But in recent decades a tendency towards decline in the growth rate of population can be seen. The area is free of slums despite a high density of residences. More than one-fourth of the households have monthly income of rupees 5000 or more. There are hardly any vacant spaces in the social area. The area has less proportion of migrants when compared to other areas of the town. Industrial activity is conspicuous by

its absence. Although this area is at present socially and economically most dynamic, its future prospects are difficult to predict. There is no scope for future expansion, and diversification of activities seems to be remotely possible the area owes its present status mainly to the existence of commercial activity on a large scale and consequently the presence of economically prosperous population. Further strengthening of commercial activity could be only possible development in the future as the areas lie on the nexus of transport routes within the town.

Area of Social Elite

The region comprising the eastern part of Nabadwip town and its surrounding area, ward no 3, 2, 19, 20, 21 are constitutes the area of the social elites of the town. This is the best residential address in the town. It is in this area that many posh residential blocks have come up in the recent years. Although not active economically, this is the most elite area of the town. It is significant to point out here that the absence of commercial activity. There is considerable scope for future development, as there is some vacant land available fit for development. Houses are not crowded and the density of houses is less. It is the area where most of the single-member households of the town are located. The migrant component of the population is the highest of all the social areas. One of the characteristics features of this area is the location of the important administrative offices. Besides a number of higher educational institutions are concentrated in this area. This social area has high female literacy ratio and the proportion of scheduled caste population is very low, much below the city average. Further this part of the city ranks socially high. There is no commercial activity worth the name nor even a single important industry in this area.

Area of Transition

The social area of transition zone includes the area around ward no 7, 8, 14, 11, 22. The area is marked for low literacy ratio, low female literacy ratio and average family income. It is characterized by a concentration of industrial activity such as *bidi*, red curd, and handloom industry. Near all the important industrial units of the town are located within the confines of this social area. The density of population is the lowest in the town. However, the annual average growth rate of population is much above the city average. Most of the town's slum areas are located in this area. Though the area has considerable economic activity its, social scene is not very encouraging. The existence of an economic base and signs of its further strengthening and stabilization may in all probability lead to the development of this social area in the coming years.

Area of Stagnation

Nabadwip town, an old historic settlement and the peripheral settlements of the town fall under the category of area of stagnation. It is dormant and inactive

both socially and economically. Though it is located within the municipal limits of town, it does not exhibit good urban characteristics. The settlements in this area are more like villages incorporated into the municipality. Literacy ratio, especially female literacy ratio is much below the city average. However during the last few years a number of small scale industrial units have been set up in this social area. Few oil and rice mills started functioning in this area. However the area continues to remain a neglected and underdeveloped area.

Asset status map reveals the status of asset, which is good in the core area of the town and very poor at outskirts of the town. The asset status index prepared by both immovable and movable property index.

To determine the level of quality of life quantitative analysis of data has been done. Aggregate of all the variables have been taken. A composite score has been calculated by adding up the total of all variables for different wards separately. Good quality of life belongs to ward no 2, 9, 10, 13, 12, 15. On the other hand very poor are ward no 21, 5, 7, 16, 18.

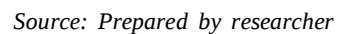
Table- 2. Index of Quality of Life

Ward Number	Quality Of Life
2,9,10,12,13,15,	Good
8,14,17,3	Medium
1,4,6,11,22,23,24,19,20	Poor
5,7,16,18,21	Very Poor

Table 3. Correlation matrix among Life style Status, Social Status and Property Index

		Life Style (X)	Social Status (Y)	Property Index (Z)
Life Style(X)	Pearson Correlation	1	-.045	.937**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.836	.000
	N	24	24	24
Social Status(Y)	Pearson Correlation	-.045	1	-.139
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.836		.516
	N	24	24	24
Property Index (Z)	Pearson Correlation	.937**	-.139	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.516	
	N	24	24	24
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).				

Source: Calculated by researcher



Like other Indian cities three main type of residential areas are recognised in Nabadwip town, these are the high, the middle and low class residences. However some intermingling and complex of different types of buildings are also in advance. The low class residences occupy the central core of the indigenous part of the

town. These residences grew in and around both the nuclei—the river bank and the railway colony. The least distance from the working place was the prominent factor in resulting the congestion. The ward no 5, 6, 21, 7, 19 from low class area. In this area the houses are old and ill planned with two storeys. No care is taken for getting fresh air and light. The area is mostly mixed with business. The density of population and houses is very high. The middle class residences encircle the central area of the town. These residences differ from the low class residences in condition. They are new and open and are often double storied standing on road. The residential colonies of the housing schemes are the recent extensions of the middle class residences. The high class residences developed along the main road in the same direction. Some high class residences developed in south west ward no 23, 20, and 16. These areas enjoy modern building mostly double storied with spacious compounds, population and house densities are sparse here. These areas have healthy environment and good living conditions. The railway colony is a planned residential colony with better living conditions. It lies in the south, away from the indigenous part of the town. It is nearly square in shape and developed a checker board pattern.

It is observed that the riverine site of Nabadwip witnessed the initial habitation of people. With expansion of the town various establishments came in existence and the residential area got intermingled with business, administrative and industrial areas. The town expanded along the main road and river bank in an oval shape. The tendency of people, to live near the employment centres, also caused a centripetal force and the core of the town became highly congested. But ultimately this compactness in town generated a centrifugal force and the high class people started moving towards periphery and the peripheral erections came into existence. The construction of civil lines and railway colony, apart from the indigenous part of the town, added colour to the peripheral beauty. The social group generally settled in segregation from the beginning from the rest. In recent decades the residential segregation according to economic status has been more common. The decentralisation of high class people from the hub of the town becomes a common thing. The growth of suburbs or outgrowth is now an important phenomenon. Middle class people are also are trying to build residential neighbourhoods, in the peripheral areas. The low income groups are concentrated in the densely built-up inner core of the town, or in the slum, which have developed far from the city centre or low lands of the riverside. Thus residential segregation started on communal and caste basis then economic status. In the morphological pattern of Nabadwip the sector zone form have been observed partly. Here also religious bases are the most prominent factor to decide the typical Indian residential segregation. Some of the Mohallas represents this type of segregation by the significance of their names as Ghasiapara, Telipara, Kasari para. Some other areas are also occupied by certain religious groups as Kamarpara is mostly occupied by chamars (shoe-makers).

Baidikpara is the centre of Brahmins. The Banias are concentrated in the central commercial area. The railway colony enjoys partly Christian and Muslim community since its inception.

Conclusion

It has been observed that the high house density lies in the core which decreases towards the periphery although some exceptions are also present. It is interesting to note that the maximum densities lie in the commercial centres, Bazar ward and Poramatola road. It is perhaps due to the fact that in both wards the residential area has its low proportion in comparison to the other areas, while the number of houses is large, and thus the density rises. In the outer ring the density is observed below the town's average. These are the wards which were lying vacant for a long time and are developing in recent decades. In some of the wards planned residential colonies are developing and thus, this zone enjoys fair density. In view with the above description, it may be concluded that the old settled central area of the town is built very congested. This congestion decreases towards the periphery and thus presents the picture of concentric zonal distribution, some exceptions are also present. Only a few wards are built fairly otherwise, congestion is more prominent. The houses of Nabadwip town have been divided into three structural types, pucca, Semi-pucca and kutcha. These three types largely from their distinct areas. The principal areas of pucca (brick and cement or tile) houses are the Railway colony on the west and its vicinity on the east end of the town. The pucca houses belong to the upper middle class individuals as In Charichara Para, Bannerjee Para, Choudhury Para, Dearapara etc. housing colonies. The semi pucca houses occur in small patches chiefly in ward no 19 and ward no 1. These houses generally belong to the middle class people. The kutcha, mud and thatch or tile houses are found in the middle of the town, between the Railway area and civil lines and in the outer areas. These houses are partly of the pre-urban villages and part of the poor people living around them in the ill-drained part of the town. Some of these are occupied by middle class people. The city society is consisted of various social patches. Those are the breeding grounds of the new social identity of a city. An urban centre is developing in a sequential stages of time and in this process, its society gets evolved. A number of geographical as well as social, economic, demographic factors are shaping a society. Social area analysis of a city is important to get a complete picture of the historiogenesis, evolution and present condition of an urban society. Social area analysis is an important tool that enables city planners to understand a city more prominently.

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