

CHAPTER II.

PERSONAL EFFECTS BELONGING TO THE MALE ADULTS.⁽¹⁾

In this chapter we will limit our discussion only to the distribution of personal belongings of male adults in the region.

~~Special.~~

Assuming that all male adults put on songkok, it was decided to tabulate average number of songkoks per person. Besides that the writer also tabulates average number of songkoks per household according to age groupings.⁽²⁾ This is to show that the average number of songkoks is more in the elder group than that of the younger group. --

The average songkok per person in the younger group is 1.1,⁽³⁾ whereas that of the elder group is 1.5.⁽⁴⁾ On the whole however the writer finds that the average number of songkoks per person is approximately

1.1.⁽⁵⁾ This means that a household of four male adults will have five songkoks. In the survey it was found that these people do not wear songkoks except when they pray or when they attend certain functions like marriages.

It is also found that the people do not buy songkoks very often.

The average frequency of buying this item by an individual in this village is one songkok in four or five years. This is because the songkok when once bought, if maintained properly, will be usable

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- (1) 'Male Adults' -- the age for this section of the population in the region is taken to be that of above fifteen years of age. 15 years is the frequent marriage age for the female members of the family.
- (2) The age grouping is 15-40 years for the younger group and 41 and above for the elder group.
- (3) The figure is derived from Table XIIIb facing page 18.
- (4) The figure is derived from Table XIIIb facing page 18.
- (5) This figure is derived from Table XIIIa facing page 18 in this survey.

TABLE XXIII.
NUMBER OF PAIRS OF LONG TROUSERS IN HOUSEHOLD.

No. of Male Adults in Household	Total No. of Male Adults	No. of Pairs of Long Trousers in Household					Total No. of Pairs of Long Trousers	Average Pair of Trousers for House- hold
		0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10 and Above		
0	0	5	1	-	-	2	-	
1	68	15	28	18	-	7	239	3.5
2	28	1	2	4	2	5	225	4.4
3	6	-	-	2	-	-	12	2
4	4	-	-	-	-	1-	15	3.8
Total	106	21	31	24	2	13	299	3.7

TABLE XIII.

DISTRIBUTION OF PAIRS OF LONG TREASERS ACCORDING TO OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.

Occupation of Head of Household	Total No. of Household	No. of Pairs of Long Treasurers in Household					Total No. of Pairs of Long Treasurers	Average No. of Pairs of Long Treasurers Per Household
		0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10 & Above		
Jewelry	8	2	2	3	-	1	48	6
Bank-Bank	11	4	4	4	1	1	42	3
Handymen	60	7	19	11	1	3	241	3.5
Perish	5	-	-	4	1	-	27	5.4
Rubber Tappers	4	-	2	2	-	-	26	4
Govt. Employees	2	-	1	-	-	1	28	9
Doctors and Consultants	6	-	1	-	-	5	76	12.7
Others	6	3	2	-	-	1	23	3.8
Total	95	16	30	24	3	12	391	4.08

for the length of four or five years. Sometimes it can last more than that. Because of this we find that the people do not spend very much of their income on this item. It only becomes a financial burden to them when they are replacing the old ones and this only happens once in every four or five years.

LONG TROUSERS:

We shall now go on discussing the distribution of pairs of long trousers among the male adults in the area. Most of the trousers are made of white or brown khaki but there are a few who possess dacron or some costly quality. These few costly ones usually belong to the younger group.

Table XIIIa facing page 19 shows the distributive patterns among the various households according to the number of male adults in them. Table XIIIb facing ^{the same} page 19 shows the distribution of the trousers among the various households according to the economic status of the heads of the households.

Looking at Table XIIIb again we find that the highest average figure for trousers per household is found in the house of those classified as drivers or conductors. This is because the nature of their work requires them to have more of this item whereas most of the fishermen are contented to wear sarongs when they fish. The lowest average figure is found in the households of the mak-mak. (6) This is due to their low income which has deprived them of buying more of these goods. The minimum cost per pair of trousers is eight dollars. The higher incomes

(6) This is the lowest class of the number of the fishing crew which were not to fish.

TABLE XIVa.

NUMBER OF MALE BAJUS IN HOUSEHOLD.

No. of Male Adults in Household	No. of Male Adults in Region	No. of Male Bajus in Household				Total No. of Male Bajus	Average Bajus Per Person
		0	1-3	4-6	7 and Above		
0	0	5	1	-	-	1	-
1	68	7	55	6	-	133	1.9
2	28	-	8	4	2	57	2.1
3	6	-	-	2	-	9	1.5
4	4	-	-	1	-	6	1.5
Total	106	12	64	13	2	206	1.9

of the drivers and the conductors as compared to that of the ~~work-men~~ explains the big difference in the number of trousers owned by them. The ratio of ownerships of this capital good between the driver-conductors and that of the ~~work-men~~ is four to one. A driver's and conductor's income per day is between four to five dollars as compared to the average income of one dollar per day of the fishermen.

The Baju.

The Malays in Seorah, as the other Malays in the Peninsula, put on white Baju whenever they go for prayers or when they attend official functions. This serves as the tunic for their national dress. Some of the older people put them on daily. But majority of them do not wear this dress daily. Because of this we find that they do not own more than four of this dress. The average number per person as shown in Table XIVa facing page 20 is approximately 1.9.

It is also found that the older groups of the population own more bajus than the younger groups as shown in Table IIIVb facing page ²¹ 27. This table shows the average number of bajus per person in the older group is approximately 2.2 as compared to that of 1.6 owned by the younger group.

As in the case of songhoks, because they only wear this dress occasionally, they can keep it for quite a long time. Here again they only replace the bajus once in two or three years. This helps them greatly because they do not have to spend much of their low income in buying these dresses.

TABLE XIV.

DISTRIBUTION OF HAJI'S DAJU ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP.

Total No. of Male Adults	Age-Groups of Male Adults in Years	No. of Male's Daju Per Male Adult					Total No. of Male's Daju	Average No. of Daju Per Male Adult	
		0	1	2	3	4			
67	15 - 40	9	25	17	8	5	3	250	2.6
39	41 and Above	1	20	14	20	3	1	65	2.2
206	Total	20	35	21	18	8	4	205	2.9

TABLE IVa

NUMBER OF PAIRS OF MALAY SELNAR IN HOUSEHOLD.

No. of Pairs in Household	Total No. of Male Adults	No. of Pairs of Seluar in Household				Total No. of Pairs of Seluar	Average Pair of Seluar Per Person
		0	1-3	4-6	7 and Above		
0	0	5	1	-	-	1	-
1	68	15	49	4	-	113	1.7
2	28	-	9	4	1	15	1.5
3	6	-	-	2	-	9	1.5
4	4	-	-	1	-	6	1.5
Total	106	20	59	11	1	174	1.6

Seluar.

The seluar serves as the trousers for the Malay national dress. Unlike the trousers, the seluar is pocketless. Fishermen in this region wear seluar when they fish. To these people, the seluar is a necessity. The average number of pairs of seluar per male adult as shown in Table IVa ^{above} on page 21 is 1.64. This seluar is comparatively cheap to make. Just as the average number of baju is greater in the older groups, we also find that the average pair per male adult for this dress is approximately 1.7 whereas in the younger groups the average figure is 1.3 or less. This figure shows that this item is popular among the older group of the population.

TABLE XVII.

NUMBER OF PAIRS OF SHORTS IN HOUSEHOLD

No. of Male Adults in House- hold	Total No. of Male Adults in the Area	No. of Pairs of Shorts in Household					Total Pairs of Shorts	Average Pairs Shorts per Person
		0	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 and Above			
0	0	9	1	-	-	2	-	
1	68	34	29	4	1	65	0.9	
2	38	6	3	2	3	43	1.5	
3	6	-	1	-	1	16	2.7	
4	4	-	-	1	-	4	1	
Total	106	45	34	7	5	130	1.2	

TABLE VIII.

**DISTRIBUTION OF PAIRS OF SHOES ACCORDING TO
GENERATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.**

Occupation of head of Household	Total No. of Household	No. of Pairs of Shoes in Household					Total Pairs of Shoes	Average Pair of Shoes Per Household
		0	1-3	4-6	7 and Above			
Astragan	8	3	4	-	1	24	2.0	
Hand-Work	14	8	4	2	-	8	0.6	
Knallers	40	19	21	1	1	48	1.2	
Perch	5	-	2	2	1	27	5.4	
Rubber Tappers	4	3	1	-	-	1	0.3	
Govt. Employees	2	1	-	1	-	4	2	
Dryers and Coastalers	6	3	-	1	2	26	4	
Others	6	3	2	-	-	2	0.3	
Total	99	60	33	7	1	120	1.3	

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Shorts.

Shorts are not popular among the fishermen because they do not stop them from cold when they fish. The fishermen set out from their homes early in the morning just before the break of dawn. Because of this they need something longer to keep their legs from getting cold.

The average figure as shown in Table IVIa ^{on the opposite page} indicates how unpopular this item is to the people there. Moreover the cost of buying shorts is higher than that of making a pair of sarbar. The cost of making a pair of shorts is between seven and eight dollars, whereas the cost of making a pair of sarbar is between three and four dollars, depending on the quality of the cloth.

Table IVIb facing ^{this} page 22 shows that this item is popular only among the paroch (middlemen). This is because the paroch can afford to buy them. Besides that the paroch like to wear shorts because they can easily wade in the water when buying and collecting fish on the beach.

Shirts.

Shirts are widely worn by the fishermen in this area. They wear them when they are fishing and they wear them during their leisure hours too. Of course the quality of the cloth from which they are made is not very high. It is often made of those cloth which the people can buy with their low income. Shirts are necessary and, because of this, we find that the average ^{number of} shirts per person as shown in table XVVa facing page 22 is

PAPER XVII.

NUMBER OF SHIRTS IN HOUSEHOLD.

No. of male Adults in House-hold	Total No. of male Adults in the Region	No. of Shirts in Household					Total No. of Shirts	Average No. of Shirts per Person
		0	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 and Above			
0	0	3	1	-	-	2	-	
1	64	4	27	20	9	328	4.8	
2	20	-	1	7	6	136	4.5	
3	6	-	-	-	2	19	3.3	
4	4	-	-	-	1	21	5.25	
TOTAL	106	9	29	35	18	506	4.8	

PAPER XVII.

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF MOTOR DRIVERS DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO
OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD**

Occupation of Head of Household	Total No. of Households	No. of Salts in Household					Total No. of Salts	Average Salts Per Household
		0	1-3	4 - 6	7 and more			
Jergani	6	1	2	3	2	60	8.5	
Bank-Aank	24	1	6	5	2	98	4.1	
Householders	40	-	15	19	16	304	5.1	
Parach	5	-	-	3	2	37	7.4	
Rubber Tappers	4	-	2	2	-	12	3	
Over. Employees	2	-	-	1	1	24	12	
Drivers and Conductors	6	-	-	2	4	79	13.2	
Others	6	2	3	-	1	20	3.3	
Total	65	4	28	35	18	904	5.9	

approximately 4.8 shirts. This figure is in fact higher than the average number of singlets or Malay bajus owned per person.

However we find that as the income of the individual is higher, there are more shirts in his household. This is clearly shown in Table XVIII. This table shows the distribution of shirts according to the economic ^{status} of the head of the household. The average figure in the last column of this table shows us that the average number of shirts in a driver's or a conductor's house is four times that of the average number of the same item in the man-a-wok's household. This difference is apparently due to the inequality in income of the people in this region. A driver or conductor earns between four to five dollars a day whereas the average income per day of the man-a-wok is one dollar.

TABLE XVIII

DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF COATS ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS OF MALE ADULTS.

Ages of Male Adults in Years	Total No. of Male Adults	No. of Coats Per Male Adult				Total of No. Coats	Average No. of Coat Per Male Adult
		0	1	2	3 and Above		
15 - 40	67	57	9	1	0	11	0.2
41 and Above	39	27	6	4	2	20	0.5
Total	106	84	15	5	2	31	0.3

TABLE XIII.

**DISTRIBUTION OF PAIRS OF LEATHER SHOES ACCORDING TO
OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.**

Occupation of Head of Household	Total No. of Household	No. of Pairs of Leather Shoes in Household					Total No. of Pairs of Leather Shoes	Average Pairs of Leather Shoes Per Household
		0	1	2	3 and above			
Jorgans	9	-	5	-	3	18	2.3	
Went-Work	14	4	8	2	-	12	0.9	
Headlinsers	40	18	22	3	1	40	1	
Pernech	5	-	1	3	1	8	1.6	
Robber Tappers	4	-	3	-	1	6	1.5	
Overl. Muplignos	2	-	-	2	0	4	2	
Dryers and Constructors	6	-	2	1	3	20	3.3	
Others	6	4	-	1	1	5	0.8	
Total	68	20	61	12	12	113	1.7	

Coats.

Very few of the people in this region own coats. Out of 106 male adults in this village only one-third own coats. So the percentage of those having coats is comparatively small indeed. This is because it is too costly for them to make coats with their low incomes. Moreover their marginal utility for this item seems to be less than that of a shirt or a sarong. The writer received the impression that, if they were given the choice between buying a shirt and a coat, the fishermen would prefer to buy the latter.

The average number of coats per person as shown in Table IVB in Appendix IV on page .XV. is 0.3. However Table IVB on page 23 shows us this item can be found mostly in the households of the older people of the village. Most of the coats owned by these people are the closed-collar type. This fashion is out of date today. These shows us that these coats were bought during their younger days, ten or more years ago. However, nowadays, because of their low and variable income, none of them ever bought a coat since the last five or six years.

Leather Shoes.

Leather shoes are considered by the villagers as a luxury good. The fishermen do not wear shoes when they fish. Some of them even walk barefooted when they go out to town. However, a few wear leather shoes when they attend functions or whenever they travel about.

TABLE XII.

**DISTRIBUTION OF PAIRS OF CANVAS SHOES ACCORDING TO
OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.**

Occupation of Head of Household	Total No. of Household	No. of Pairs of Canvas Shoes in Household			Total No. of Pairs of Canvas Shoes	Average Pairs of Canvas Shoes Per Household
		0	1	2		
Joeegan	8	4	2	1	13	1.6
Amak-Amak	14	10	2	1	8	0.6
Handlinsere	40	30	14	3	34	0.9
Porosob	5	3	1	-	4	0.8
Rubber Tappers	4	-	2	2	6	1.5
Govt. Employees	2	-	1	1	3	1.5
Business and Domesticity	6	1	1	-	4	2.8
Others	6	2	2	2	6	1
Total	83	40	25	10	91	1.1

34
Absent

The lack of interest in wearing leather shoes may be a result of their inadequate and uncertain financial position, for the cost of buying a pair of leather shoes is too much for their low income. Their inability to buy leather shoes can be judged through the frequency of their buying these goods. To all of them their leather shoes can normally serve them for a minimum period of five years. Even if they do buy shoes, it will be a time when they have sufficient money to spare, for example during the time when they have big catches successively. This however seldom happens to them.

Table XIIIa in Appendix IV on page ^{XVI}.... shows the distribution of leather shoes among the male dwellers of this region. The total average pair per person is approximately 1.1.

Because there is an inequality in income here, there is a tendency for inequality of ownership of capital goods and as such we find that the average number of leather shoes in each household is greater in the higher income groups, namely the jaragans, the drivers and conductors, the government employees and the paroch. Table XIIIb facing page 24 shows this distinction clearly.

Canvas Shoes.

Just as the leather shoes are not popular among the villagers, the canvas shoes receive the same treatment. Only the few rubber tappers and those government employees have an average

TABLE XXV.

**DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF SPEAKERS ACCORDING TO
OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.**

Occupation of head of Household	Total No. of Household	No. of Speakers in Household					Total No. of Speakers	Average No. of Speakers Per House- hold
		0	1	2	3 and Above			
Jernigan	8	1	4	2	1	16	2	
Kant-Awak	14	7	5	2	-	9	0.6	
Handlerson	40	12	19	8	1	40	1	
Peruch	5	3	2	-	-	2	0.4	
Rubber Tappers	4	2	1	1	-	3	0.8	
Govt. Employees	2	1	-	-	1	3	1.5	
Peafyers and Consulators	6	3	2	-	1	6	1.3	
Others	6	6	-	-	-	0	0	
TOTAL	95	35	33	13	4	91	0.9	

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of 1.5 pair per household. This is because these two groups put on canvas shoes during their working hours. Those of the higher income brackets too have an average of two to three pairs per household. This is because they can afford to buy them. Figure IIb facing page 26 shows distinctly this distribution.

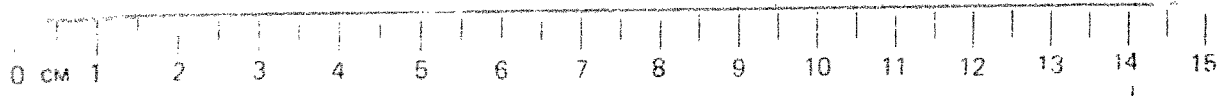
Sweaters.

More than 60 percent of the fishermen in this region wear sweaters when they are fishing. To these set of fishermen sweaters form an important bit in their fishing uniform. The sweaters protect them from cold. These are the headliners, who form the bulk of the fishing class in this area. Table XIIb facing page 26 shows us clearly how important this item is to the headliners.

The sweaters worn by these people are of low quality. Each sweater costs between two and three dollars. This enables the headliners to own at least one each. Seven out of the fourteen mank-mank's household do not have sweaters at all. Because of their low and variable income the mank-mank have to decide whether to buy sweaters or long-sleeved shirts. The fishermen require the sweaters to protect them from cold when they are fishing but these sweaters can be substituted with long-sleeved shirts which will provide almost the same satisfaction. Moreover the shirts can be used at other times of the day whereas

the sweaters can only be used when they fish. Because of this most men prefer to be without sweaters.

Our analysis and discussions on the personal belongings of the male adults in this region show us that their income patterns and their marginal utility for a particular good determine the amount and quality of capital goods they own. These two factors also determine their demand for any particular capital goods.



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TABLE XXXV.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF FEMALES PAJES IN HOUSEHOLD DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.

Occupation of Head of Household	Total No. of Household	No. of Female Pajes in Household						Total No. of Female Pajes	Average No. of Female Pajes Per Household
		0	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	Above 20		
Secretaries	8	-	1	4	-	1	2	115	21.4
Book-keepers	14	1	5	7	-	1	-	93	6.6
Handlmen	40	3	9	14	8	3	3	383	9.6
Parsons	5	-	1	3	-	1	-	53	10.6
Labour Pajers	4	-	3	1	-	-	-	21	5.3
Govt. Employees	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	37	18.5
Drivers and Conductors	6	-	-	-	4	2	-	94	15.7
Others	12	-	6	3	2	1	-	93	7.8
Total	91	4	25	33	14	9	6	889	9.7

Source: Census of India, 1951, Part III, Tables A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-6, A-7, A-8, A-9, A-10, A-11, A-12, A-13, A-14, A-15, A-16, A-17, A-18, A-19, A-20, A-21, A-22, A-23, A-24, A-25, A-26, A-27, A-28, A-29, A-30, A-31, A-32, A-33, A-34, A-35, A-36, A-37, A-38, A-39, A-40, A-41, A-42, A-43, A-44, A-45, A-46, A-47, A-48, A-49, A-50, A-51, A-52, A-53, A-54, A-55, A-56, A-57, A-58, A-59, A-60, A-61, A-62, A-63, A-64, A-65, A-66, A-67, A-68, A-69, A-70, A-71, A-72, A-73, A-74, A-75, A-76, A-77, A-78, A-79, A-80, A-81, A-82, A-83, A-84, A-85, A-86, A-87, A-88, A-89, A-90, A-91, A-92, A-93, A-94, A-95, A-96, A-97, A-98, A-99, A-100.