

# **A Study of Higher Education Among Muslims in Selected Districts of Uttar Pradesh**

Keywords: *Muslims, Higher Education, Participation, Performance, Educational and Career goals, Socioeconomic status*

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This study aims at analyzing the participation, performance, educational and careers goals of young Muslims students (pursuing higher education) in relation to their socioeconomic statuses, gender, rural-urban population, and other related factors. Conducted in four heavy and moderate Muslim concentrated districts of Uttar Pradesh namely, Rampur, Moradabad, Lucknow and Siddharth Nagar, this study provides a glimpse of the pressing educational problem of Muslim youths. Among all other factors, poor financial and economic status of Muslim families has been noted as one of the leading factor affecting the participation, performance, educational and career goals of Muslim youths. Unavailability of institutions of higher learning in nearby areas, insecurity in travelling and unaffordable travelling cost, responsibility and family expectation to earn and contribute to family income etc. have been documented some other important factors restricting Muslim youths from achieving their desired educational and career goal. This study has also collected and ascertained the views of educated Muslim youths on contemporary social, economic, educational, cultural, and political issues pertaining to Indian Muslims.

Family Socio-economic status (SES) occupies a significant space in this study. Consistent with the findings of available literature, this study noted that majority of the participants were belonging from low middle-class families.