

## **A DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF DAKSHIN DINAJPUR DISTRICT: A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Demography, a scientific study of population, exposes the size, structure, growth and distribution population of a specific nation or state nation or state or region. The study of demography constitutes the social, economic and cultural aspects of a population and shows their effects on them. In course of time, the demographic profile of a developing or developed nation like India, America, etc changes and its effect on population is found. This paper based on demographic profile of Dakshin Dinajpur District will show how the percentage of the population distribution, density, growth, sex rate, religious composition, type of workers, literacy rate and so on are varied and differentiated of this district. The paper presents how the demographic profile of Dakshin Dinajpur district is and how it is enhanced in respect of decadal growth rate is its objectives as per census 2011.

Key Words: Demography, population, distribution, decadal growth

### **Introduction**

The study of demography is one of the most important and even most necessary aspects of population generally concerned with a specific nation or state or region. It is scientific study through which the population size, structures and their development is obviously exposed. According to Hauser and Duncan, “the study of the territorial distribution and composition of population, changes therein and the composition of such changes which may be identified as natality, mobility, territorial movement and social mobility (change of status).” The demographic profile on any nation concentrates some aspects of general fertility rate, crude birth rate, total fertility rate, gross reproducing rate and net reproducing rate. The social, economic and cultural process of a nation is analysed through a demographic profile. As a Research Scholar of T.M.B.U, I take a demographic

profile of Dakshin Dinajpur District and intend to describe the growth, population distribution, density and migration of this district showing their variations and differences as per census of India-2011.

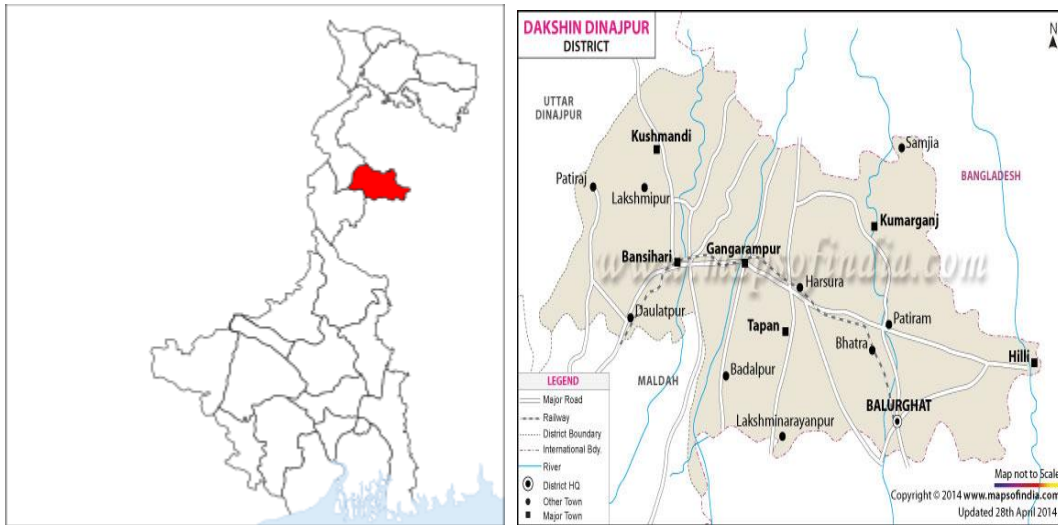
### **Database and Methodology**

The paper is based on secondary source of data collected from different years' census books, district census hand book, and the Dakshin Dinajpur Fact Book. Maximum data which are relevant for this research paper is taken from the 1991, 2001 and 2011 census reports published by the Govt. of West Bengal, The District Statistical Handbooks published by the Bureau of Applied Economics and Govt. of West Bengal. Apart From these sources, there are a number of articles published in various national and international journals which have been consulted while writing this paper. The methodology adopted for the study is qualitative as well as quantitative approach. Data analysis and Diagram through data are very needful to draw the conclusion of this research paper.

### **Study Area**

Dakshin Dinajpur, a district of West Bengal, has been selected as the region for present research work. The district lies in the Latitude between  $26^{\circ} 35' 15''$  N and  $25^{\circ} 10' 55''$  N Longitude and longitude between  $89^{\circ} 00' 30''$  E and  $87^{\circ} 48' 37''$  E in the northern portion of West Bengal State. It is bounded by international boundary with adjoining country Bangladesh in the northern, eastern and part of southern side, by Uttar Dinajpur district in western side and by Malda district in part of southern side. The district covers the area of about 2,219 sq km. According to census 2011, the total population of Dakshin Dinajpur district had 1,670,931 of which male and female were 855,104 and 815,827 respectively. Most of the people who reside in urban areas are leading a far better life the demographic profile of Dakshin Dinajpur Proves. As this district is predominantly known for agricultural district, most of the Dakshin Dinajpur proves. As this district is predominantly known for agricultural district, most of the people living in the rural areas are presently concerned with cultivation. As per 2011 census, the rural and urban areas of D. Dinajpur are 85.87% and 14.13% respectively. There are 1579 villages, 2 municipalities, 8 blocks and 65

panchayats occupying the district of Dakshin Dinajpur. As a researcher, I have selected the district areas indicated in this paper as per the Demographic Profile of this district.



(Source: Dakshin Dinajpur district – Wikipedia)

## **Objectives**

1. To know the demographic profile of Dakshin Dinajpur.
2. To find out variations and differences of Dakshin Dinajpur's population.
3. To analysis the different, demographic aspects of Dakshin Dinajpur District.

## **Dakshin Dinajpur: Population Distribution and Density**

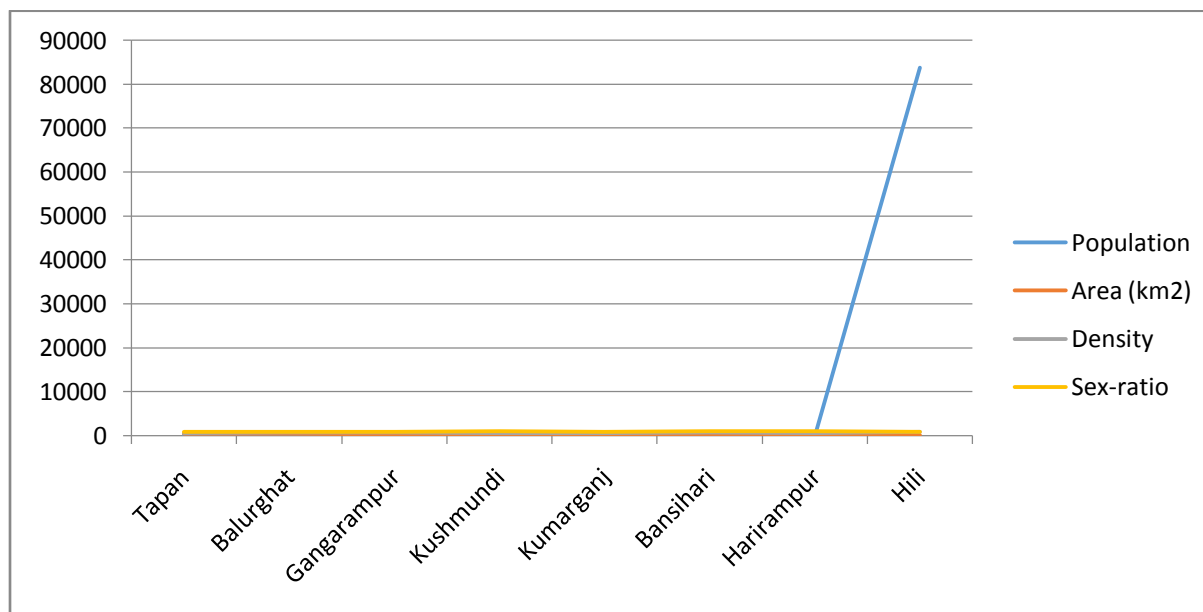
Population distribution means the pattern of where people live whereas population density is the measurement of the number of people in an area. The distribution and density of population in any nation come off through the natural increases and migration. As per census of india-2011, the total population of Dakshin Dinajpur District is about 1,676,276 of which 8,57,199 are males and 8,19,077 are females and the total area contains 2219 sq. km. The density of population of D. Dinajpur District is about 755 people per sq. km. The population density of Hilli Block of this

district is higher (947) whereas kumarganj is the lower (585). The table of 8 Blocks. Of D. Dinajpur including total population area (km<sup>2</sup>), pop. Density and sex ratio is mentioned below:

**Table of Population, Area, Density And Sex Ratio of all Blocks, 2011**

Blocks	Population	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Density	Sex-ratio
Tapan	2,50,504	424.15	591	949
Balurghat	2,48,901	355.01	701	940
Gangarampur	2,37,628	309.96	767	933
Kushmundi	1,98,752	304.89	652	981
Kumarganj	1,69,102	288.90	585	942
Bansihari	1,41,286	207.28	682	958
Harirampur	1,36,853	218.61	626	982
Hili	83,754	88.47	947	949

(Source: Census of India-2011)



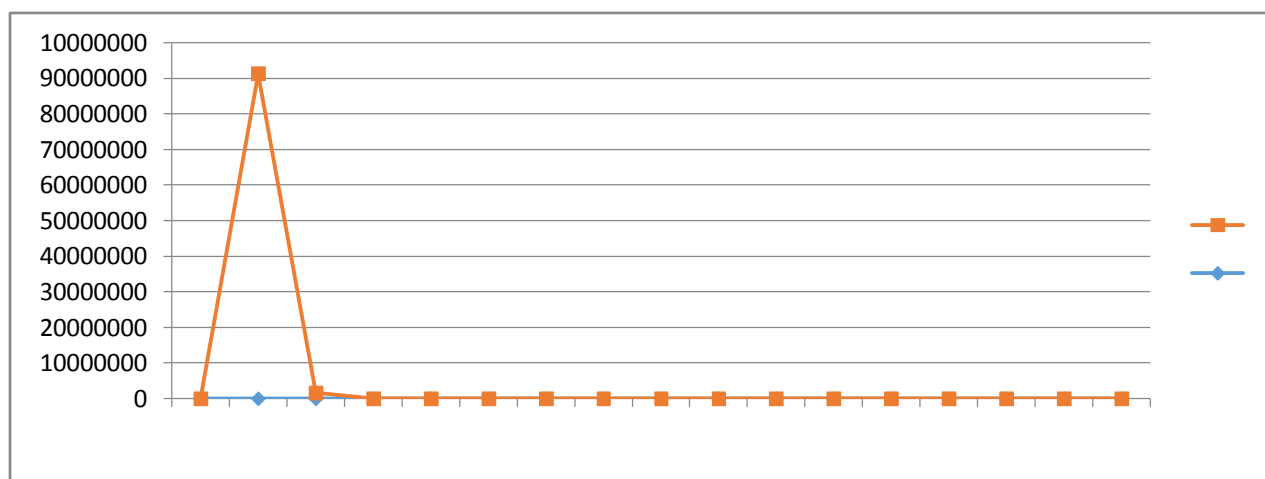
**Dakshin Dinajpur: Number of child in 0-6 age Group and Density (male and female)**

Child population encompasses that proportion of the total population of the country which lies in the age group of 0-6 years which is an important indicator since it overlooks a delicate segment of the population. In the demographic profile the density of child population in the age group of 0-6 years is known as the most significant method. There are wide ranges of variation of child sex ratio found in either in the district level or state level of India. In Dakshin Dinajpur, as per census-2011, the population of 0-6 years is 54,289 (male-27,756 and female-26,533), and the density is 24.46/sq. km. in respect of male and female population in the age group of 0-6 years the density is 51.12% and 48.88% respectively. This varies from the previous census-2001.

### **Number of People living in Urban and Rural Area**

As per census -2001, there are total 236, people living in the urban areas of which males are 119,428 and females are 116,867 whereas the total population living in rural areas is 1,439,981 of which males and females are 737,771 and 702,210 respectively. The percentage of urban and rural population out of total population is 14.10% and 85.90% respectively. In the urban region of D.Dinajpur, there are region there are totally 890,661 people were literate of which males and females were 495,597 and 395,064 respectively as per census-2011. The sex ratio, child sex ratio (0-6), male child (0-6)%, female child (0-6)%, Literates, male literates, female Literates, female literates, average literacy, male and female literacy of both urban and rural regions of Dakshin Dinajpur district according to the census – 2011 is cited below

Description	Rural	Urban
Population (%)	85.90%	14.10%
Total Population	1,439,981	236,295
Male Population	737,771	119,428
Female Population	702,210	116,867
Sex Ratio	952	979
Child Sex Ratio (0-6)	957	958
Child Population (0-6)	169,597	18,628
Male Child (0-6)	86,629	9,524
Female Child (0-6)	11.77%	7.88%
Child Percentage	11.74%	7.97%
Male Child Percentage	11.74%	7.97%
Female Child Percentage	11.80%	7.80%
Literates	890,661	193,024
Male Literates	395,064	92,147
Average Literacy	70.11%	91.78%
Male Literacy	76.11%	91.78%
Female Literacy	63.79%	85.52%



(Source : Census of India – 2011)

### **Sex ratio**

Sex ratio is the distribution of a population between males and females living in a district of state of nation. According to census of India-2011, the sex ratio of Indian is mainly male dominated. The sex ratio of Dakshin Dinajpur is also male dominated as per census report-2011. In the district of Dakshin Dinajpur, there are 956 females per 100 males in respect of sex ratio. The sex ratios of general caste, schedule caste and schedule tribe are 950,944 and 955 out of 100 males. There are 957 girls under 6 years of age per 1000 boys of the same age in Dakshin Dinajpur District. It is obviously said that the sex ratio has increased by 5 females per 1000 males during the years of 2001-2011. During the same time Child Sex ratio has decreased by 9 girls per 1000 boys in Dakshin Dinajpur District. The following table shows the change in Sex Ratio from 2001 to 2011, Dakshin Dinajpur District:

### **Houses: Have / Have not**

In Dakshin Dinajpur district, there are totally 395,358 households normally, 820 institutional households and 228 houseless households as per census report-2011. The houseless families compel to live either on the footpath or without any roof cover in this district. The total population of all who lived without roof at the time of census-2011 was 868 and its percentage is about 0.05% of total population of this district. The density of household in D.Dinajpur District is 178.17/sq.km.

### **Number of labourers**

In Dakshin Dinajpur District there are different categories of workers residing in both rural and urban areas, and the percentage of total working population including the main and marginal workers to the total population of this district is explicitly calculated as per census-2011. The percentage of population of D. Dinajpur engaged in either main or marginal works is 42% in respect of male and female population there are 58% of male and 25% of female among the working population of D. Dinajpur. Among the total male workers, there are 50% main workers and 8% is marginal workers and among the total women workers there are 12% main workers and 14%

marginal workers according to census of India-2011. The non-workers are also wide ranging (58.1% of population) found in D.Dinajpur. A table of the category of workers is given below.

### **Religious Harmony**

Different religious people residing in Dakshin Dinajpur lead a harmonious life though they are unequal percentage found in the rural and urban areas of this district. As per census-2011, the percentage of Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Other Religion and No Religion Specified of Dakshin Dinajpur district is 73.55%, 24.63%, 1.48%, 0.02%, 0.01%, 0.02%, 0.17%, and 0.14% respectively provided below.

### **Population of different Religion, Dakshin Dinajpur District**

Religion	Total	Percentage (%)	Male	Female
Hindu	1,232,850	(73.55%)	630,344	602,506
Muslim	412,788	(24.63%)	211,350	201,438
Christian	24,794	(1.48%)	12,475	12,319
Sikh	276	(0.02%)	168	108
Buddhist	323	(0.01%)	64	84
Jain	323	(0.02%)	175	148
Other Religion	2,786	(0.17%)	1,400	1,386
No Religion Specified	2,311	(0.14%)	1,223	1,088



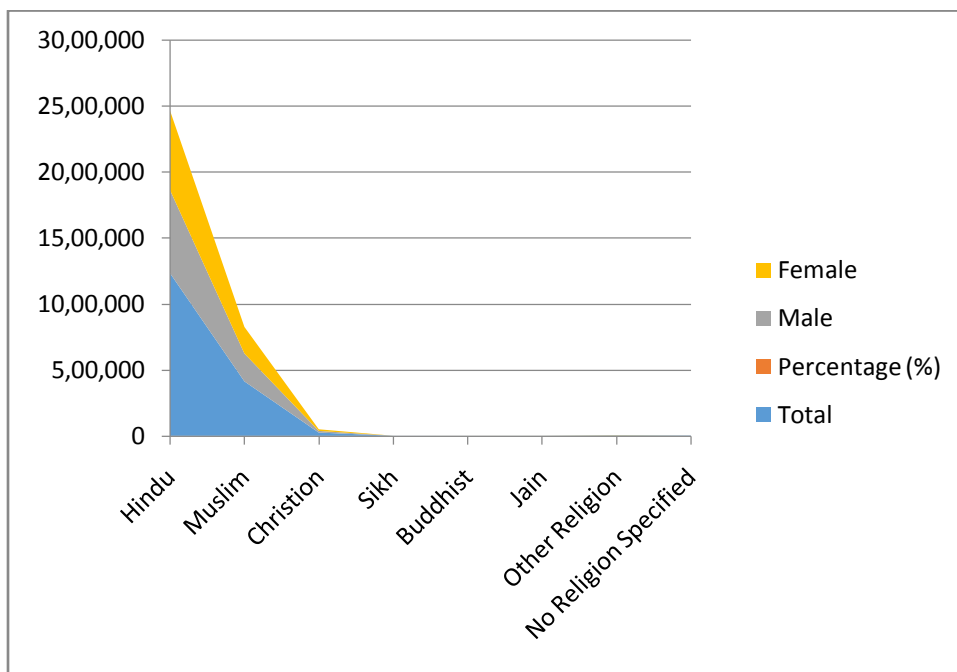


Diagram: Population of different Religion, Dakshin Dinajpur District. Census 2011

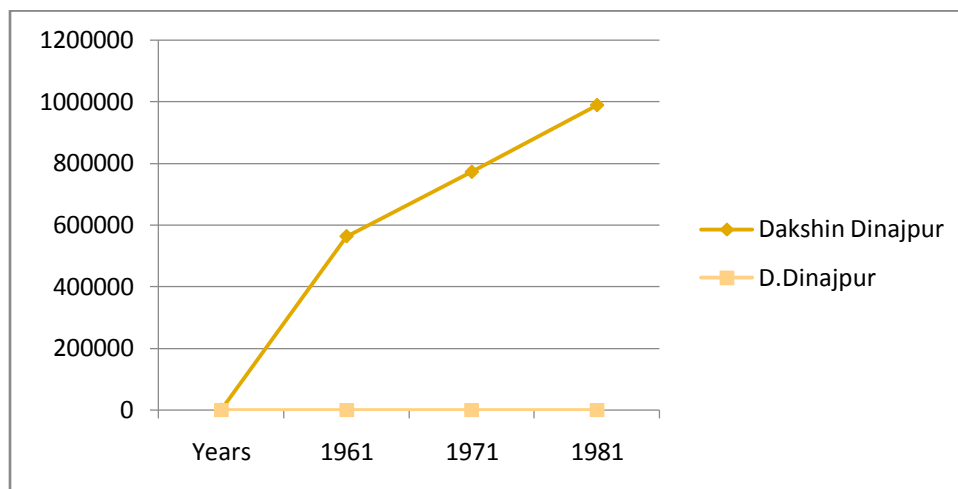
**Percentage of People: Different Castes**

In the district of Dakshin Dinajpur, there are Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe people living either in the villages of the urban areas. According to Census-2011, Schedule Caste (SC) constitutes 28.8%, whereas Schedule Tribe (ST) are 16.4% of total population in Dakshin Dinajpur, a district of West Bengal A table of total population of schedule caste and schedule tribe including males and females of this district is cited below:

**SC, ST Population: Males and Females, Total (%)**

Dakshin Dinajpur District	Total Population	Male	Female	%
Schedule caste	482,754	248,312	234,442	28.8%
Schedule Tribe	275,366	138,025	137,341	16.4%

(Source census of India -2011)



### Literacy Rate

According to the census of India-2011, a person aged 7 or above who can read write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. In region, the literacy rate depends on some factors like the social, historical, cultural, economic and political factors. The total literacy rate of Dakshin Dinajpur District is 72.82% whereas West Bengal's average literacy rate is 76.26%. the male and female literacy rates of D. Dinajpur are 78.37% and 67.01% respectively. The percentages of male and female population of Dakshin Dinajpur and West Bengal are comparatively cited below as a table.

### Literacy rate: West Bengal and Dakshin Dinajpur, 2011

State/District	Total Population	Total Literate	Percentage (%) of literacy, Male/Female
West Bengal State	91,276,115	61,538,281	76,26% (M-81.69%/F-70.54%)
Dakshin Dinajpur District	1,676,276	1,083,685	72,82% (M-78.37%/F-67.01%)

(Source: Census of India, 2011)

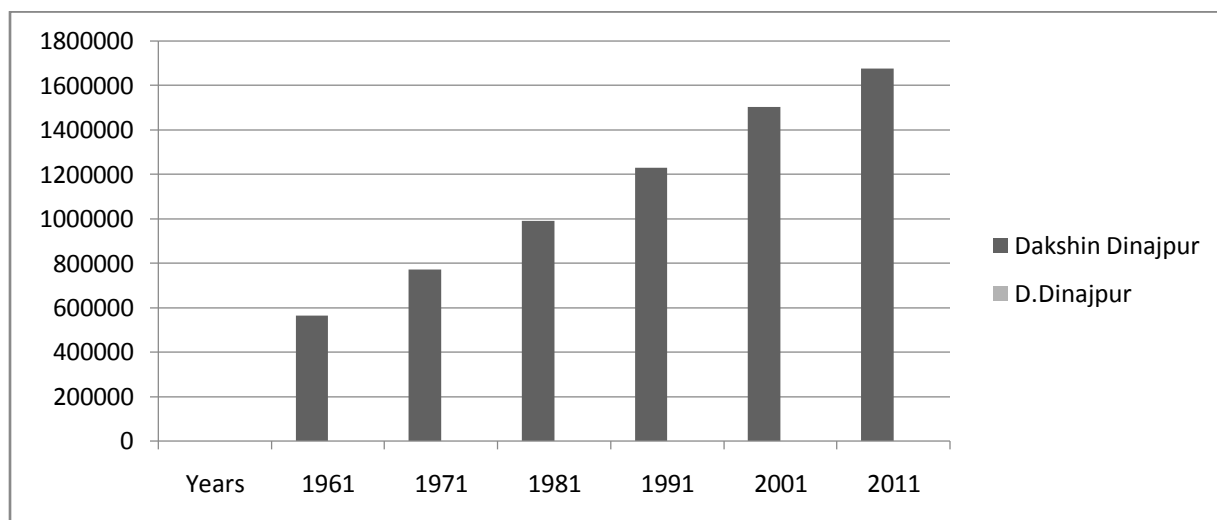
### **Growth Rate: As Per Decade**

Decadal Growth Rate of Population is the percentage of total population growth in a particular decade. India, one of the biggest democratic, population countries of this world is in the status of decadal growth after its independence. Its population was mostly increased when a war between Bangladesh and Pakistan Occurred during the period of 1970-1098. The population of West Bengal and its districts including Dakshin Dinajpur Was also increased rampantly due to migrations. The public awareness, family planning, Child death and the Government's awareness in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur are as per census report, 2011. The table provided below shows the decadal growth of this district.

### **Growth Rate: As Per Decade, Dakshin Dinajpur District From 1961-2011**

	Years	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Dakshin Dinajpur	Population	563598	772618	989294	1230608	1503178	1676276
D.Dinajpur	Growth Rate (%)	25.7	37.1	28.0	24.4	22.2	11.5

(Source Census of India, 2011)



## **Findings**

The Study on the demographic profile of Dakshin Dinajpur District provides us different information concerned with this district, which are so much effective and even helpful to all of us. Through this research paper, we get an idea of demographic features of Dakshin Dinajpur District, a district of West Bengal. This demographic profile of the district is useful in finding out the population distribution and density, sex ratio, literate population, household and houseless household density, and Caste population, population of workers, religion and decadal growth rate of Dakshin Dinajpur's population of different years. If we minutely examine these demographic aspects of Dakshin Dinajpur, we will find lots of variations from other districts of West Bengal. The percentage of population was rapidly increasing after the independence of India but recently it is decreasing on account of the awareness of population including the awareness of the Government.

## **Conclusion**

The study of demographic profile concerned with Dakshin Dinajpur District is so much significant as it identifies lots of differences and variations in terms of population, economic activities and socioeconomic condition of this district's people. To make out the ever-growing population, socio-economic and political systems of this District (like any other district or nation or state), the study of demographic profile is very important and even necessary. It clearly indicates how the development of the backwards population is going on or lacking behind and how the population growth rate of Dakshin Dinajpur District is increasing or decreasing from the past decades. This recent paper, as per census-2011, shows the percentage of Dakshin Dinajpur's people that is gradually decreasing in respect of decadal growth rate after the 'Mukti Judha' due to the public awareness, child death and even the govt. efforts. Finally, it is clearly said that the socio-economic condition found in Dakshin Dinajpur district is recently in a developing state the census report of 2011 shows.

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