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Name of the Scholar:

Md Abu Tarique

Name of the Supervisor:

Prof. M. Ishtiaq

Name of the Department/Centre:

Department of Geography

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Social Consciousness and Conflict in the Social Hierarchy in North Bihar: A Geographical Analysis

**Social Consciousness and Conflict in the Social Hierarchy in North Bihar:
A Geographical Analysis**

In this study, we seek to establish the link between growing social consciousness among people about their identity in the existing social hierarchy on one hand and social conflict and violence on the other. The central theme of the present study is the genesis of conflict in the social hierarchy. In the foregoing chapters we have discussed theoretically as well as empirically about the caste dynamics and genesis of conflict within the existing social hierarchy in north Bihar. The study taken into account about stratifications among both Hindus and Muslims of Bihar. Based on theoretical analysis and empirical analysis of the selected villages, it is crystal clear that there is the growing disenchantment among the marginalised section of the society in Bihar which is sometimes reflected in the violent conflicts. The study observed that there has been the churning among each and every level of hierarchy to ascertain the power and dominance which creates conflict in the society. The radical changes occurring in the village society due to mass educations and communication and technological developments, generates

consciousness among the backwards and marginalised society about their identity. There has been the rise of individual castes both among Muslims and Hindus in Bihar to bargain social status and power for themselves.