

# **Anthropological Perspective on the Persistence of Superstition among Educated Populations in Pune**

**Dr Gunratna Sontakke<sup>1</sup> and Ashmita Chowdhury<sup>2</sup>**

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology<sup>1</sup>

M. Sc. Anthropology, Department of Anthropology<sup>2</sup>

Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, India

**Abstract:** *Superstition, a belief or practice that is not based on scientific reasoning or evidence, has persisted throughout human history. Despite the advances in science, technology, and education, superstition continues to influence societies across the world, often in ways that shape culture, traditions, and behaviours. This study aims to address this gap by investigating the persistence of superstitions in Pune's educated population (22–65 years) and to explore the role of superstition in 21st century among Pune's educated population. In light of the findings, it becomes clear that superstition among the educated is not simply a leftover from the past. It is a living, evolving system of thought and practice that reflects the emotional needs, cultural values, and psychological landscapes of individuals. Thus, superstitions are not disappearing but adapting to the changing values of society, becoming more personalized, appealing, and technologically integrated.*

**Keywords:** Superstitions, Educated population, Cultural adaptations, Evolving traditions, Modern rationality.

