

Is Muslim political participation shrinking in Maharashtra?



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Politics in the state of Maharashtra has a direct impact on the overall country's politics. Maharashtra Assembly, which is one of the country's largest assemblies with 288 assembly seats, is known for its Maratha politics. With 48 seats in the Lok Sabha, politics of Maharashtra also have considerable impact on politics of the Center too.

While in most states, two-party politics is prevalent, in Maharashtra politics there are multitudes of aspects. Speaking of the national parties here, the BJP and Congress are main. NCP and Shiv Sena are the two major regional parties that always remain at the center of power. However, due to internal conflicts and disagreements, both parties have split recently. While Shiv Sena has split into Uddhav Thackeray and Eknath Shinde factions, NCP has split into Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar factions.



BJP:

BJP does politics which is absolutely against Muslims. They do not field Muslim candidates in either Assembly or Lok Sabha elections. During the Congress government, 5% reservation that was given to Muslims in the field of education was also abolished by the subsequent BJP regime.



Shiv Sena:

Shiv Sena, which was once the biggest flag bearer of Hindutva and the center of Maratha politics, has recently taken a more secular approach after the rift with their old ally BJP. In November 2019, Shiv Sena's chief Uddhav Thackeray became the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in alliance with Congress and NCP.



Congress:

Congress is usually considered to be the natural choice of Muslims in Maharashtra politics. Most Muslim MLAs and MPs have been from the Congress party. Even before the entry of AIMIM, the Congress party used to bring most Muslims into the electoral arena. In the government of Prithviraj Chauhan, a provision of 5% reservation was made for Muslims in education. Congress gave Maharashtra its first and only Muslim Chief Minister Abdul Rahman Antulay in 1980.



NCP:

One of the most important parties in Maharashtra politics, which considers Maratha politics as its center, is Sharad Pawar's NCP. Once upon a time, the NCP, which had achieved the status of a national party, was getting 17-22% vote. NCP also is considered a significant preference for Muslim electorate, but it always remains weaker than Congress in terms of ticket distribution to Muslim candidates.



AIMIM:

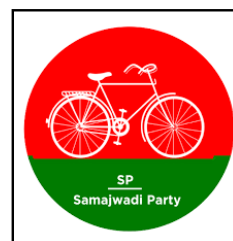
Although Muslims have traditionally voted for Congress-NCP, this community is also trying to separate itself from Congress-BJP-NCP. Due to political dissatisfaction and alienation with Congress-NCP, Muslims have also shown inclination towards All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen as a political alternative in recent elections.



AIMIM won two seats in the 2014 and 2019 Vidhan Sabha elections. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, AIMIM's Imtiaz Jaleel won the Lok Sabha seat.

Samajwadi Party:

In Muslim politics, the Samajwadi Party also has an important role in the state. Two MLAs are currently represented in the Assembly under the leadership of Abu Asim Azmi. In the 2009 Assembly elections, SP elected 4 MLAs in the state.



Muslim Population:

According to the 2011 census, Muslims make up 11.54% of the population in Maharashtra, which is more than 1.5 crore people. Muslims are present in almost every district of Maharashtra, with higher numbers in North Konkan, Khandesh, Marathwada, and Western Vidarbha. Muslims play an important role in nearly 40 assembly constituencies, including some seats in Mumbai.

Sr	Religion	2011	%
1	Hinduism	89,703,057	79.83
2	Islam	12,971,152	11.54
3	Buddhism	6,531,200	5.81
4	Jainism	1,400,349	1.25
5	Christianity	1,080,073	0.96
6	Sikhism	223,247	0.2
7	Other	178,965	0.17
8	Not stated	286,290	0.25
	Total	112,374,333	100%



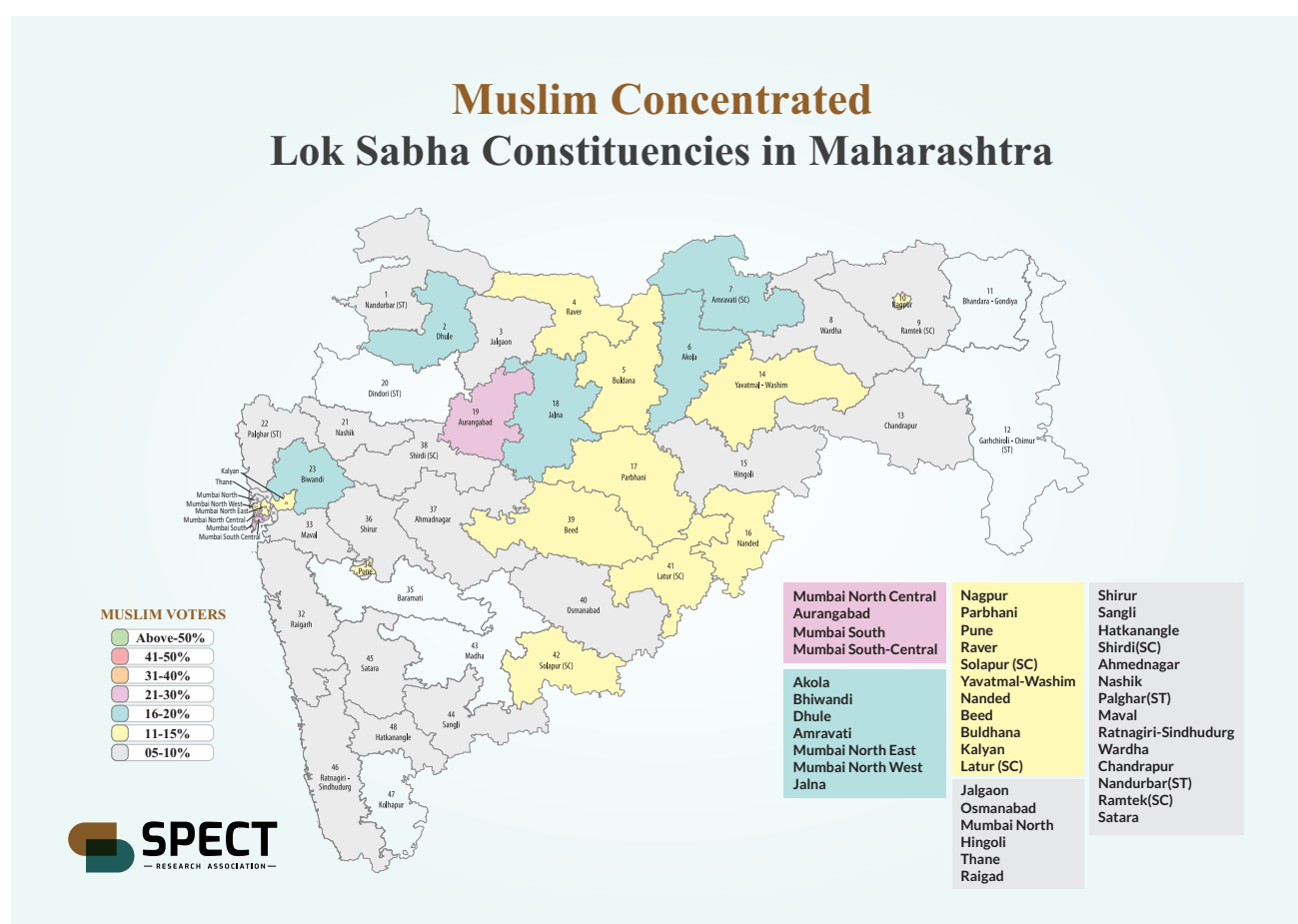
Muslim population in districts of Maharashtra

Sr	District	Muslim Population	Muslim %
1	Ahmadnagar	320,743	7.06
2	Akola	357,253	19.7
3	Amravati	421,410	14.59
4	Aurangabad	786,677	21.25
5	Bhandara	26,502	2.21
6	Beed	320,395	12.39
7	Buldhana	354,236	13.7
8	Chandrapur	92,297	4.19
9	Dhule	187,901	9.16
10	Gadchiroli	21,063	1.96
11	Gondia	26,157	1.98
12	Hingoli	127,552	10.83
13	Jalgaon	560,261	13.25
14	Jalna	274,221	14
15	Kolhapur	286,558	7.39
16	Latur	367,664	14.98
17	Mumbai City	773,173	25.06
18	Mumbai Suburban	1,795,788	19.19
19	Nagpur	390,974	8.4
20	Nanded	471,951	14.04
21	Nandurbar	96,182	5.84
22	Nashik	693,052	11.35
23	Osmanabad	178,925	10.79
24	Palghar	172,185	5.76
25	Parbhani	306,364	16.69
26	Pune	673,704	7.14
27	Raigad	227,465	8.64
28	Ratnagiri	187,197	11.59
29	Sangli	239,607	8.49
30	Satara	146,970	4.89
31	Sindhudurg	26,264	3.09
32	Solapur	441,254	10.22
33	Thane	1,183,445	14.66
34	Wardha	53,854	4.14
35	Washim	142,672	11.92
36	Yavatmal	239,236	8.63

Politics of Maharashtra's Lok Sabha

Out of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in the State, 4 seats are Muslim-concentrated, with 21-30 per cent Muslim voters. There are also 7 seats where the Muslim electorate is 15-20 per cent, which also affects the electoral outcome. Apart from this, in 11 seats there are 11-15% of Muslim voters who are also important in Maharashtra politics.

If we talk about the remaining seats other than these, almost all seats have between 5 and 10 per cent Muslim voters. Despite being in such a decisive position, Imtiaz Jalil of AIMIM, Aurangabad seat, is the only Muslim member of parliament in the Lok Sabha out of 48 seats in the state.



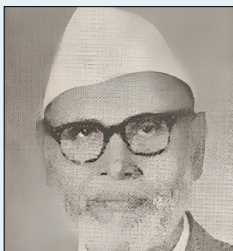
Muslim MPs elected from Maharashtra so far:



Muhammed Mohibbul Haq
(Akola, 1962)



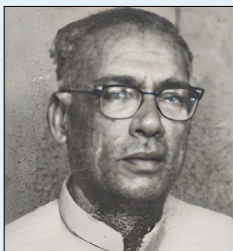
Ghulam Nabi Azad
(Washim, 1980, 1984)



Samad Ali Sayyad
(Jalgaon, 1967)



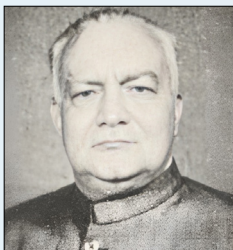
Qazi Saleem
(Aurangabad, 1980)



KM Asghar Hussain
(Akola, 1967, 1971)



Hussain Dalwai
(Ratnagiri, 1984)



Abdul Salebhoy
(Mumbai, 1971)



Abdul Rehman Antulay
(Raigad, 1989, 1991, 1996, 2004)

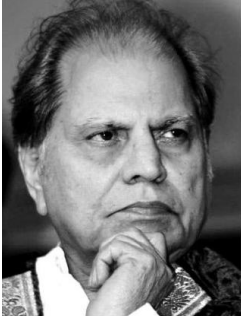


Abdul Shafee
(Chandrapur, 1971)



Imtiyaz Jaleel
(Aurangabad, 2019)

The only Muslim Chief Minister of Maharashtra



Abdul Rahman Antule, who was very close to Indira Gandhi and pledged allegiance to her in Maharashtra politics, was a Rajya Sabha member and also the national general secretary of the Congress between 1976 and 1980. He was made Chief Minister of Maharashtra in June 1980. In the 14th Lok Sabha, Antule, who is a member of Parliament from Raigad, is a rebel and controversial politician. He was appointed as Minority Welfare Minister in the Manmohan Singh government. Abdul Rahman Antule was the chief minister of Maharashtra State from 09 June 1980 to 12 January 1982.

Abdul Rahman Antule was born in a village called Ambet in Raigad district of Maharashtra. His father's name was Hafiz Abdul Ghafoor and Walida Majida's name was Zohrabi. He married Nargis Antule and had a son and three daughters. Antule did his studies from Bombay University and Lincoln University London.



Rahman Antule was a member of the Maharashtra Assembly from 1962 to 1976. In the meantime, he also held the position of State for Law and judicial. Later he was also posted to the post of Ports and Fisheries. After that, he also became a member of Rajya Sabha between 1976-1980. Once again he was elected to Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and served as chief minister of Maharashtra from June 1980 to January 1982. He had to resign from his post after being convicted on corruption charges and extortion.

He was again re-elected in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly election in 1985 and remained until 1989, when he was elected to the 9th Lok Sabha. In 1991 he was re-elected to the 10th Lok Sabha. From June 1995 to May 1996, he was the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, and from February to May 1996 he was in additional charge of Water Resources. In 1996 he was re-elected to the 11th Lok Sabha and in 2004 he was elected to the 14th Lok Sabha. He was the Union Minister of the Ministry of Minority Affairs (India) under the government of Manmohan Singh.

He had to resign as chief minister of Maharashtra due to allegations of involvement in corruption. However, years later the Supreme Court acquitted him of all charges. These accusations have been seen as a political ploy to discredit

him and stop his political development. Upon his acquittal from the Supreme Court, he said, "I did nothing wrong. I was targeted by political rivals but they failed. I got a few shocks, but they couldn't finish me."

Antule died of chronic kidney failure on 2 December 2014 while undergoing treatment at Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai.

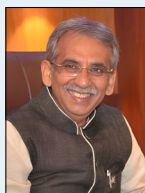


Maharashtra Assembly

Despite the Maharashtra Assembly, which ranks among the largest in the country, Muslim political participation is very low in proportion to the population. The 288-seat Maharashtra Assembly currently has only 10 Muslim MLAs. At least 30 Muslim MLAs should have been there in the assembly to maintain proportional representation.

Muslim MLA in Maharashtra Assembly 2019

Sr	Name	Assembly	Political Party	Muslim %
1.	Amin Patel	Mumba Devi	Congress	51%
2.	Aslam Shaikh	Malad West	Congress	28%
3.	Zeeshan Siddiqui	Vandre East	Congress	33%
4.	Hasan Mushrif	Kagal	NCP	3.4%
5.	Nawab Malik	Anushakti Nagar	NCP	29%
6.	Abu Asim Azmi	Mankhurd Shivaji Nagar	SP	53%
7.	Rais Shaikh	Bhiwandi East	SP	48%
8.	Abdul Sattar	Sillod	Shiv Sena	20%
9.	Mufti Ismail Qasmi	Malegaon Central	AIMIM	77%
10.	Shah Faruq Anwar	Dhule City	AIMIM	22%



**AMIN
PATEL**



**ASLAM
SHAIKH**



**ZEESHAN
SIDDIQUI**



**HASAN
MUSHRIF**



**NAWAB
MALIK**



**ABU ASIM
AZMI**



**RAIS
SHAIKH**



**ABDUL
SATTAR**



**MUFTI
ISMAIL QASMI**



**SHAH FARUQ
ANWAR**

Prominent Muslim candidates who lost Maharashtra Assembly Elections 2019

Sr	Name	Assembly	Political Party	Muslim %
1.	Arif Naseem Khan	Chandivali	Congress	27.6%
2.	Waris Pathan	Byculla	AIMIM	41.3%
3.	Muzaffar Hussain	Mira Bhayandar	Congress	17%
4.	Shoeb Khan	Bhiwandi West	Congress	47.9%
5.	Sajid Khan	Akola West	Congress	40.9%
6.	Haji Farooq Maqbool	Solapur City Central	AIMIM	24.5%
7.	Feroz Lala	Nanded North	AIMIM	23.2%
8.	Abu Altamash Faizi	Mumbra-Kalwa	AAP	43.5%
9.	Dr Gaffar Qadri	Aurangabad East	AIMIM	37.1%
10.	Naseeruddin Siddiqui	Aurangabad Central	AIMIM	38.2%



Arif Naseem Khan



Waris Pathan



Muzaffar Hussain

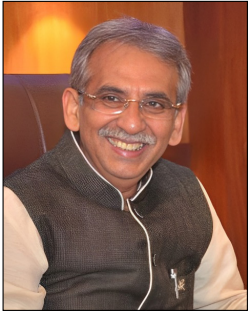
Muslim MLA in Maharashtra Assembly 2014

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1.	Amin Patel	Mumba Devi	Congress	51%
2.	Aslam Shaikh	Malad West	Congress	28%
3.	Nasim Khan	Chandivali	Congress	28%
4.	Abdul Sattar	Sillod	Congress	20%
5.	Shaikh Aasif	Malegaon Central	Congress	77%
6.	Abu Asim Azmi	Mankhurd Shivaji Nagar	SP	53%
7.	Hasan Mushrif	Kagal	NCP	3.4%
8.	Waris Pathan	Byculla	AIMIM	41%
9.	Imtiyaz Jaleel	Aurangabad Central	AIMIM	38%
10.	Syed Pasha Patel	Ausa	BJP	12%

Muslim equation on Maharashtra assembly seats

Assembly seats where Muslim voters are more than 50% :

If one looks deeply at the assembly seats, it will be clear that out of the 288 seats, there are 109, where Muslim voters are above 10%. Directly, there are 4 assembly seats that are entirely Muslim-majority, where the Muslim electorate is more than 50 per cent. Out of the 10 MLAs who won, 4 are from these seats.

1. **Malegaon** is the assembly seat with the largest Muslim population in the Madhya Maharashtra Assembly. In this seat, 77 per cent of the voters belong to the Muslim community. In Vidhan sabha elections 2019, Mufti Muhammad Ismail won from here on AIMIM ticket with 58% of the votes (117242). He was also an MLA from the Jan Surajya Shakti Party in 2009. In the 2014 assembly elections, Congress candidate Sheikh Asif Rashid won from this seat.
2. **Mankhurd Shivaji Nagar** seat is the second Muslim majority seat of Maharashtra Assembly where Muslim voters constitute 53% of the electorate. This seat is known to be a bastion of the Samajwadi Party or the traditional seat of Abu Asim Azmi. Since the last three assembly elections, Abu Asim Azmi has been elected MLA from this seat continuously.
3. **Mumba Devi Assembly** also ranks among the Muslim-majority seats in Maharashtra. 51% of the voters here belong to the Muslim community. Since the delimitation of 2009, veteran Congress leader Amin Patel has been elected MLA from this seat continuously. This seat can also be called the

traditional seat of Amin Patel, who belongs to the powerful Khoja Muslim community in Maharashtra.

4. **Bhiwandi East Assembly** seat is also among the Muslim-majority seats in Maharashtra. This seat is also a bastion of the Samajwadi Party. In the 2019 Assembly elections, Raees Sheikh of the SP has become the winning MLA from here. In the 2014 elections, Shiv Sena won from here due to the split of the Muslim vote between the SP, AIMIM and the Congress. In 2009, when Abu Asim Azmi won from two seats, Bhiwandi East also had one seat.



Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
1	Malegaon Central	76.8
2	Mankhurd Shivaji Nagar	53
3	Mumba Devi	50.7
4	Bhiwandi East	50.6



Assembly seats where Muslim voters are 40-50% :

This is followed by 5 assembly seats where the Muslim electorate is 40-50 per cent. Bhiwandi West, Amravati, Mumbra-Kalwa, Byculla, Akola West are the assembly seats where the Muslim population is in a decisive position. Most of the time in these five seats, it is seen that all secular parties do not field Muslim candidates despite the Muslim-majority seat.

1. The BJP has been winning the last two elections from Bhiwandi West. In the 2019 elections, the BJP candidate won easily due to the split of votes between independents and Congress Muslim candidates. Abdul Rashid of Samajwadi Party was MLA from here in 2009.
2. Despite being Muslim-majority, most secular parties do not field Muslim candidates in the Amravati Assembly seat. Sanjay Khodke of the Congress is currently the sitting MLA.
3. Another Muslim-majority seat, Mumbra Kalwa, which is also considered the traditional seat of NCP leader Awhad Jitendra Satish, is also reluctant to field a Muslim candidate. Jitendra Ahwad has been elected MLA from this seat continuously for the last three elections.
4. Similarly, despite being Muslim-majority in the Byculla Assembly seat, secular parties have refrained from giving tickets to Muslim candidates. In 2014, AIM-IM's Waris Pathan became a Muslim MLA from this seat for the first time, but he lost the election by a large margin in the 2019 elections.
5. Akola West is also a Muslim-majority seat from which BJP's Govardhan Mangilal Sharma has been elected as MLA three times. In the 2019 election, Sajid Khan of Congress lost the election to the BJP candidate by only 2593 votes. If we talk about the earlier elections, then here too, political parties used to be reluctant to field a Muslim candidate.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
1	Bhiwandi West	47.9
2	Amravati	46
3	Mumbra-Kalwa	43.5
4	Byculla	41.3
5	Akola West	41

Assembly seats where Muslim voters are 30-40% :

When you talk about seats with 30-40% Muslim population, there are 6 such Assembly seats. But in the name of delimitation, two of these seats Dharavi and Kurla have been reserved for Dalits. In the run-up to this game of delimitation, Muslims have been banned from winning elections, even from contesting elections. In addition, 2 seats Aurangabad central and east Muslim candidates have been runner-up. Currently, out of these 6 seats, only Zeeshan Siddiqui of Congress is the MLA from Vandre East seat.

1. Aurangabad Central is an assembly seat where Muslim and Dalit equations guarantee victory in elections. In this seat, 38.2% Muslim voters and 19% Dalit voters play a key role in electoral politics. Imtiaz Jalil, the sitting MP of AIMIM, has been elected MLA from this seat in the 2014 assembly elections. Pradip Jaiswal of Shiv Sena is currently the MLA from this seat.
2. Like Aurangabad central, Aurangabad East is also an assembly seat with Muslim Dalit electoral equation. There are 37% Muslim voters and 17% Dalit voters. Dr Abdul Ghaffar Qadri of AIMIM lost the election to the BJP candidate by a very small margin in the last two elections. A good electoral equation in the coming times could lead to the election of a Muslim MLA from this seat as well.
3. In the Versova Assembly seat, which falls under the Mumbai suburban district, Muslim voters also play the most important role in electoral politics. 34% of the voters in this seat are from the Muslim community. Surprisingly, despite 1 lakh Muslim voters, secular political parties are reluctant to give tickets to Muslim candidates from here. In the 2014 assembly elections, Abdul Hamid of AIMIM created a stir in political circles by securing 17% vote share from this seat.
4. In Vandre East, Muslims are also playing a key role in electoral politics.

From here, 33% of Muslim voters have the strength to win and defeat any candidate in the election. Currently, Zeeshan Siddiqui of Congress is the MLA from here. In the assembly elections 2014, AIMIM secured almost 20% vote share in this seat which put secular parties in the can. The reason was clear that like the Versova seat, these parties do not field Muslim candidates from here most of the time.



5. Speaking of the Kurla seat, it will be understood that despite having 31% Muslim voters, this seat was made a Dalit Reserve in the 2009 delimitation. Which has completely destroyed Muslim politics here. Before 2009, veteran Congress leader Arif Naseem Khan was elected MLA from here. After the reserved seat, he had to contest the Chandivali seat. From the last two elections, Shiv Sena MLAs have been winning from here.
6. As soon as Dharavi's name comes, the picture of AISA's biggest slum comes out. If you talk about the assembly seat, it has also been reserved for Dalits in the delimitation despite having 34% Muslim voters. You can also call this seat the traditional seat of Varsha Gaikwad of Congress. She has been elected as MLA from here for four consecutive terms.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
1	Aurangabad Central	38.2
2	Aurangabad East	37.1
3	Dharavi (SC)	33.3
4	Versova	33.3
5	Vandre East	33
6	Kurla (SC)	30.7



Assembly seats where Muslim voters are 20-30% :

Now let's talk about the seats where the Muslim population is 20-30 per cent. In political circles, it is said that any seat in which a community has 20-30% of its population can easily win elections from there by forging a political alliance with any one other community.

There are 22 assembly seats in Maharashtra where Muslim voters are 20-30%, but in most seats Muslims are away from the Legislature for not understanding the game of the political equation. Of these, Pune Cantonment and Washim have 2 seats reserved in the name of delimitation despite having the highest number of Muslim voters.

Out of these 22 seats, only 3 seats have been won by Muslim candidates. NCP leader Nawab Malik is the MLA from Anushakti Nagar seat. Aslam Sheikh of Congress has been elected as MLA from Malad West. Shah Farooq Anwar of AIMIM is the sitting MLA from Dhule city.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
1	Anushakti Nagar	29
2	Malad West	27.7
3	Chandivali	27.6
4	Andheri West	27
5	Akot	25.3
6	Vandre West	25.2
7	Parbhani	24.8
8	Solapur City Central	24.5
9	Kalina	24.3
10	Balapur	23.4
11	Nanded North	23.2
12	Nanded South	23.1
13	Nagpur Central	22.1
14	Dhule City	21.6
15	Sion koliwada	21.1
16	Pune Cantonment (SC)	21
17	Karanja	20.4
18	Latur City	20.1
19	Jalna	20

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
20	Malkapur	20
21	Raver	20
22	Washim (SC)	20

Assembly seats where Muslim voters are 15-20% :

If one looks at the seats with 15-20% Muslim voters in Maharashtra Assembly, there are 16 such Assembly seats. The electoral trend of Muslim voters in these seats is decisive to decide the victory or defeat of any candidate. Out of these, veteran Shiv Sena leader Abdul Sattar is the sitting MLA from Sillod Legislative Assembly with only one seat.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
1	Nashik Central	19.3
2	Sillod	19.3
3	Beed	19.1
4	Hadapsar	19
5	Achalpur	17.9
6	Aurangabad West (SC)	17.2
7	Mira Bhayandar	17
8	Gangapur	16.3
9	Colaba	16.2
10	Buldhana	16
11	Solapur South	15.6
12	Badnera	15.1
13	Ahmadnagar City	15
14	Bhusawal	15
15	Jalgaon City	15
16	Kasba Peth	15

Assembly seats where Muslim voters are 10-15% :

There are at least 56 seats across Maharashtra where the Muslim electorate counts at 10-15%, which is enough to mess up the electoral equation of any candidate. Apart from these seats, Hassan Musharif of the NCP won the assembly elections from Kagal, a seat with only 3.4% Muslim voters.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
1	Nagpur North (SC)	14.8
2	Paithan	14.8
3	Ghatkopar West	14.7
4	Jogeshwari East	14.4
5	Miraj (SC)	13.7
6	Andheri East	13.6
7	Ratnagiri	13.5
8	Chikhli	13.3
9	Mahim	13.2
10	Shrivardhan	13.2
11	Goregaon	13.1
12	Udgir (SC)	13
13	Solapur City North	12.9
14	Sangli	12.7
15	Ichalkaranji	12.6
16	Jalgaon(Jamod)	12.6
17	Jamner	12.5
18	Wadala	12.5
19	Parli	12.3
20	Akkalkot	12.1
21	Kannad	12.1
22	Ahmadpur	12
23	Dindoshi	12
24	Osmanabad	11.9
25	Daryapur (SC)	11.6
26	Nagpur West	11.6
27	Bhokardan	11.4
28	Jintur	11.4
29	Kalyan West	11.4
30	Murtijapur (SC)	11.3
31	Ausa	11.2
32	Deglur(SC)	11.2
33	Phulambri	11.2
34	Kaij(SC)	11
35	Chopda(ST)	10.9
36	Nilanga	10.9
37	Pathri	10.9
38	Khamgaon	10.7
39	Majalgaon	10.7
40	Partur	10.7
41	Shrirampur (SC)	10.7
42	Vadgaol Sheri	10.7
43	Digras	10.5
44	Kamthi	10.4
45	Mehkar (SC)	10.3
46	Pachora	10.2
47	Teosa	10.2
48	Badnapur (SC)	10
49	Erandol	10

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Muslim %
50	Hingoli	10
51	Kolhapur North	10
52	Shirol	10
53	Umarga (SC)	10
54	Vaijapur	10
55	Worli	10
56	Yavatmal	10

Reserved seats in delimitation (Muslim centric)

There are 16 seats in the Maharashtra Assembly where Muslim voters are in good numbers, despite these seats being reserved for Dalits in the name of delimitation, so Muslims are prohibited from contesting those seats. 4 of these seats are Dalit reserved despite being Muslim-centric.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Dalit %	Muslim %
1	Dharavi (SC)	16.1	33.3
2	Kurla (SC)	13.77	30.7
3	Pune Cantonment (SC)	19.73	21
4	Washim (SC)	21.28	20
5	Aurangabad West (SC)	23.57	17.2
6	Nagpur North (SC)	35.43	14.8
7	Miraj (SC)	18.2	13.7
8	Udgir (SC)	24.2	13
9	Daryapur (SC)	23.87	11.6
10	Murtijapur (SC)	23.61	11.3
11	Deghur (SC)	22.24	11.2
12	Kaij (SC)	15.66	11
13	Shrirampur (SC)	17.92	10.7
14	Mehkar (SC)	20.09	10.3
15	Badnapur (SC)	13.84	10
16	Umarga (SC)	16.09	10



Unreserved Dalit majority seats

If the delimitation seats are reserved according to the Dalit population, there are 31 Assembly seats where the Dalit population is the highest (more than 17%), despite those seats being in the general category. About 17 of these seats are unreserved despite being Dalit majority.

Sr	Assembly Constituency	Dalit %	Muslim %
1	Badnera	26.36	15.1
2	Nagpur South West	22.31	1.7
3	Mukhed	22.24	6.8
4	Sindkhed Raja	21.33	7.1
5	Naigaon	21.09	8.7
6	Risod	20.94	9.4
7	Teosa	20.88	10.2
8	Nagpur West	20.59	11.6
9	Dhamamgaon Railway	20.08	7.2
10	Nilanga	19.87	10.9
11	Parvati	19.44	6.9
12	Khamgaon	19.4	10.7
13	Hadgaon	19.32	6.6
14	Latur Rural	19.31	8.1
15	Nagpur South	19.2	8.4
16	Ahmadpur	19.12	12
17	Phulambri	19.03	11.2
18	Vadgaol Sheri	18.89	10.7
19	Loha	18.88	7.2
20	Hingna	18.77	3.5
21	Nagpur East	18.73	9.4
22	Sakoli	18.65	1.5
23	Ballarpur	18.48	5.8
24	Chikhli	18.44	13.3
25	Kamthi	18.34	10.4
26	Osmanabad	17.89	11.9
27	Kolhapur South	17.8	5.8
28	Hingoli	17.65	10
29	Deoli	17.62	3.8
30	Savner	17.58	4.6
31	Bhokar	17.04	9.5

The game of Dalit and Muslim seats in delimitation will be more easy to understand with the example of some assembly seats.



For example, the Kurla Assembly seat has been reserved with delimitation despite the Muslim electorate being 31%, while the Dalit population in this seat is only 13.77%. In its ult Nagpur south west seat, it has been placed in the category of general seat despite 23% Dalit population. The seat has a Muslim population of only 1.7%.



The Dharavi Assembly seat is also a Dalit reserved seat despite having 34% Muslim voters. The Dalit electorate in this seat is only 16%. Its ult Mukhed and Sindkhed Raja Assembly seats are in the general category despite being Dalit-centric. While Mukhed has 23% Dalit voters, Sindkhed Raja has 22% Dalit voters.

Similarly, Pune Cantt and Washim Assembly seats have also been reserved for Dalits in delimitation. Pune Cantt seat has 20% Muslim voters. At the same time, Muslim voters in the Washim seat also hold a decisive position in electoral politics with 22%. The assembly seats in ult naigaon, Risod, Teosa, Nagpur West, Dhamangaon and Nilanga, where Dalit population is above 20 per cent, have been placed in the general category.

Dalit and Muslim equation

When it comes to the political equation, Muslim and Dalit voters play a decisive role in Maharashtra's politics. 11.54% of Muslim voters and 11.81% of Dalit voters in the state make such an electoral equation in some seats that any candidate can easily win.

Some examples can explain this issue.

Badnera	
Dalit	26.36%
Muslim	15.1%

Ahmadpur	
Dalit	19.12%
Muslim	12%

Solapur City North	
Dalit	16.81%
Muslim	12.9%

Parli	
Dalit	16.23%
Muslim	12.3%

Sangli	
Dalit	16.11%
Muslim	12.7%

Jalgaon (Jamod)	
Dalit	15.65%
Muslim	12.6%

Parli	
Dalit	16.23%
Muslim	12.3%

Chikhli	
Dalit	18.44%
Muslim	13.3%

Osmanabad	
Dalit	17.89%
Muslim	11.9%

Phulambri	
Dalit	19.03%
Muslim	11.2%

Some emerging questions ?

- Now the question arises: Why are Muslim-majority seats reserved in the name of delimitation, despite there being other Dalit-majority seats that remain unreserved?
- What factors are responsible for the political disruption in the upliftment of Maharashtra's Muslims ?
- Despite being directly decisive in 37 Assembly seats, why are there only 10 Muslim MLAs?

Try to find answers to these questions so that proper efforts can be made for the political upliftment of the Muslim community. What are your thoughts on this issue? Please share with us.

Thanks !!!

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