

DALERA

of
India



Population: 18,500

Religion: Hinduism

Christian: 0%

Language: Hindi

The Dalera are also known as the Mochi. They are cobblers who make and repair leather footwear. They also make leather handbags, suitcases, saddles, harnesses and leather aprons.

Because of their work with leather (cows are considered sacred in Hindu tradition) the Dalera/Mochi are considered unclean and are part of the Scheduled Caste system, also known as Dalits, the lowest of the Indian castes.

Literacy levels for the Mochi are a low 15% and below. The dropout rate is high because of they cannot afford school.

The Mochi's worth and self esteem is linked to their status as degraded people under the Hindu caste system. They need schools and the finances to send their children to school.