

THE a-b RIDGE COUNT IN THE GUJAR PISIS AND KUREEL CHAMARS OF INDIA

NISHA PANDEY, V. K. TANDON

Department of Anthropology, Lucknow University, Lucknow, UP, India

The palmar a-b ridge count has been examined in the Gujar Pisis and Kureel Chamars and compared to other Indian populations.

A sample of 150 (100 males and 50 females) Gujar Pisis and 150 (100 males and 50 females) Kureel Chamars from Utarathia, Lucknow district, have been examined for a-b ridge count on both hands (Cummins and Midlo 1961, Pons 1967).

Gujar Pisis and Kureel Chamars are two endogamous subdivisions of the Indian populations of Pisis and Chamars. Both have the same social status, being placed in the lowest substratum of the Chaturvarna Vyavastha as untouchables.

The results are shown in the Table and compared

to those obtained on other Indian populations. Basically, slightly higher values are found in males than females, in Pisis than Chamars, and on the left hand than on the right one.

Sex heterogeneity is found in Pisis ($t = 2.75$), but not in Chamars ($t = 0.165$). Left-right differences are also found to be significant in both groups.

When compared for the same trait to other Indian populations, the Gujar Pisis and Kureel Chamars come only near the Purabia Chamars ($t = 0.45$ and $t = 0.65$, respectively).

Table. *The a-b Ridge Count in the Pisis and Chamars as Compared to Other Indian Populations*

Population	N	Sex	a-b ridge count	SD	Reference
Indians of Andhra	80	M	76.92	8.1	Datta 1960
Indians of Punjab	38	F	80.68	9.08	Seth 1962
Maharashtrians of India	72	M	82.89 \pm 0.65	5.51 \pm 0.46	Bansal 1966
	73	F	76.82 \pm 0.93	7.92 \pm 0.65	
Purabia Chamars	46	M	71.92	1.38	Srivastava and Shukla 1966
Gujar Pisis	42	M	68.19	1.45	Srivastava and Shukla 1966
Rastogis of Lucknow	85	M	76.13 \pm 1.20	11.04 \pm 0.84	Rastogi and Shukla 1969
	87	F	74.39 \pm 1.10	10.34 \pm 0.77	
Gujar Pisis	100	M	72.27 \pm 0.52	5.23	Present study
	50	F	67.46 \pm 0.36	4.92	
Kureel Chamars	100	M	71.40 \pm 0.57	5.70	Present study
	50	F	71.04 \pm 0.37	3.74	

Acta Genet. Med. Gemellol. (1975), 24: 165-166.

REFERENCES

- Bansal I.J. 1966. Frequency of a-b ridge counting among the Maharashtrians of India. *The East. Anthropol.*, 19: 117-122.
- Cummins H., Midlo C. 1961. *Finger Prints, Palms and Soles. An Introduction to Dermatoglyphics.* New York: Dover Publication Inc.
- Datta P.K. 1960. A study on quantitative value of palmar triradii. The a-b ridge count in the people of Andhra Pradesh. *Madhya Bharti, Saugar University Journal (Science)*, 9: 9.
- Pons J. 1967. Genetics of the a-b ridge count on the human palms. *Ann. Hum. Genet.*, 27: 3.
- Rastogi S., Shukla B.R.K. 1969. Ridge counts among the Rastogis of Lucknow (U.P.). *Man in India*, Vol. 49, No. 3.
- Seth P.K. 1962. The a-b ridge count in the palmar dermatoglyphics of the Indians of Punjab. *Man*, 242: 189-190.
- Srivastava R.P., Shukla B.R.K. 1966. A quantitative study of dermatoglyphics of Purabia Chamars and Gujar Pasis of U.P. *The Anthropologist*, 13.

Dr. V.K. Tandon, Department of Anthropology, Lucknow University, Lucknow, UP, India.