Morphological Variation of Certain Traits Among The Scheduled Caste Madigas of Andhra Pradesh

K. Rajasekhara Reddy¹ and V. Rami Reddy²

¹Department of Anthropology, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore 570 006, Karnataka, India
²Department of Anthropology, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati 517 502, Andhra Pradesh, India

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ABSTRACT The paper reports the morphological variation of earlobe types, cleft chin, and hypertrichosis of the ear and eye-brow types among the two Madiga groups, belonging to the same sub-caste of Gampadhompi Madigas: Madigas at Cuddapah District (MDCOP) and Madigas of Chittor District (MDCTR). The proportion of persons with attached earlobe is lower in MDCOP (26.22%) than in MDCTR (38.79%), with highly significant sex difference in the latter group. The overall incidence of the trait of attached earlobe of the pooled Madigas is relatively lower than in other population. The cleft chin incidence in pooled Madigas is highly variable in male series (27.85%) with highly significant sex and intergroup differences, and shows larger variation compared to other populations. Hypertrichosis of the ear is found to be lower in MDCOP (20.38%) than in MDCTR (23.53%), and the overall incidence of pooled Madigas is somewhat higher than in other populations. Continuous eye-brow type is less common in the pooled Madigas (16.56%) with negligible group difference and significant sex difference in either group.